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High cash incentive to Chess Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin congratulated and handed over a cheque for the high cash incentive of Rs. 30 lakh and a memento to Chess Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa, who played excellently in the 2023 FIDE World Cup Chess championship held at Azerbaijan and finished as runner up, at Camp office on 30.08.2023.

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Marundhaakith thappaa marath-thatraal selvam
perunthakai yaankan padin ***-Kural 217***

The wealth in the possession of a noble person with the generous heart to help others is like a beneficial tree whose every part is used as healing medicine.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the Kural

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, inaugurated the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Scheme' and distributed debit cards to beneficiaries, at a function held in the campus of the Pachaiyappa's College for Men, Kancheepuram on 15.09.2023.

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Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Scheme launched; 1.06 crore women to get Rs.1,000 every month

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** after inaugurating the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam' at Kancheepuram on 15.09.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on the occasion of Perarignar Anna's birth anniversary on 15.09.2023, inaugurated the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam', that provides Rs.1,000 every month for 1,06,50,000 women, at a function held at the Pachaiyappa's College for men in Kancheepuram. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also handed over ATM cards to 13 women beneficiaries, as a token of the inauguration of the scheme.

Announcement about the scheme in the Budget

The Government of Tamil Nadu has implemented many welfare schemes for women, including property rights for women, reservation for women in local bodies and free bus travel for women in transport corporation buses. In this way in the 2023-2024 annual budget, it was announced that the women heads of families in the

State would be given Rs.1,000 per month, as assured by the DMK Party in its election manifesto. It was announced that this historic scheme, will be launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in the birth centenary year of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar in the month of September, which is popularly known as Dravidian Movement's month and on the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna on September 15.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin explains Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

In his explanation of how the 'Magalir Urimai Thittam' is to be implemented, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu said in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 27.03.2023 that the scheme has twin objectives. One is that the scheme is to give recognition to women, who toil throughout their lives without any reward. The second is that the Rs. 12,000 per annum to them will support and improve their livelihood, remove their poverty to a certain extent and make them live with self respect in society.

Rs.1,000 given as a recognition to the participation of women in the society, will be deposited directly to their bank accounts. Women, doing small trades on pavements, fisherwomen, who rush to sea everyday in the morning, women engaging in construction work, those working in small shops and small industries with a meagre income, and women domestic workers who work in more than one house in the same day will be benefited under the scheme. This scheme will benefit nearly one crore women heads of family each with Rs. 1,000 per month.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister instructed the respective District Collectors that they should ensure that the scheme benefits those women from the marginalised of the society, like those living on the road side, sanitary workers, tribal people and other destitute women. Even if they do not have Aadhar Cards, Ration Cards or any other personal cards, the officials should help them to get these identity cards and help them to get the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin inaugurated the camp for registeration of application forms for the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam in Dharmapuri

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the registration of application forms on 24.07.2023, for the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam, at the Thoppur Government Higher Secondary School in Dharmapuri District.

In the first phase, the registration of application forms will be done from 24.07.2023 to 04.08.2023 and in the second phase from 05.08.2023 and 14.08.2023. Those who are left out in these two phases will have a special camp from 18.08.2023 to 20.08.2023 to register their application form.

The Government has so far received 1.63 crore applications for joining the scheme. Of these, 1.06 crore applications have been selected. For them, Rs. 1,000 will be deposited directly in their bank accounts.

Candidates application result status will be informed through a SMS sent to their registered mobile number from 18.09.2023.

Inauguration of the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam

Rs.7,000 crore has been allotted for the scheme for the current financial year, the biggest scheme ever in the history of Tamil Nadu. The Scheme will be launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 15.09.2023, the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna, at a function in his birth place Kancheepuram, which will benefit 1,06,50,000 women. As a token of inauguration, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the bank credit cards to 13 women.

Speech delivered by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the event.

“He is called a leader - He is called a philosophical genius - He is called an actor - He is called the King of Theatre play - He is called an eloquent writer - He is called a man - He is called a gem - He is called a Minister of State - He is called a mother - Arulmozhi Kaval - Politician - His mother named him 'Anna' for those who didn't have time to say everything separately, with affection from their heart they can call him using a single word “Anna” for which his mother had given him this name, said our Muthamizharignar Kalaignar about ‘Kanchi thandha Valluvan’ Anna, in a poetic style.

I welcome all those, who have come here to participate in the historic occasion of the launching of ‘Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam’ on the occasion of the Perarignar Anna’s birth anniversary.

There were many driving forces in my political journey. But the topmost is Kancheepuram, the birth place of Perarignar Anna.

At a young age, I started the DMK Youth Wing in my Gopalapuram area and involved myself in public life by organizing many functions. In the year 1971, along with my party cadres I took the Anna Torch from the Anna Memorial at the Marina Beach to Kancheepuram, where I handed over the torch to Thalaivar Kalaignar at the Party conference. At that time, Party General Secretary, Navalar Nedunchezhian and Party Treasurer M.G.Ramachandran were also with Thalaivar Kalaignar on the dais.

Since that day, I have been carrying the Dravidian Torch, which protects self-respect, socialism and State autonomy, the guiding principles of Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna and Thalaivar Kalaignar. After adopting their principles in my life, I have come here to launch the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam', which, I am confident, will bring a revolutionary change in Tamil society.

It is a great privilege for me to inaugurate the scheme. Perarignar Anna, who named the State as Tamil Nadu said the name could not be removed by anybody and as long as the name continues, this State is ruled by Annadurai. In a similar manner, I would like to say on the inauguration of the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam' that the State will be ruled by Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin as long as the Thittam exists in the State.

A scheme for the Journey towards Dawn

Many schemes have been executed in the past two-and-a-half years. Cost-free travel for women in the Transport Corporation Buses, Breakfast scheme for school students to keep them free from hunger when they are in school, 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme of Rs. 1,000 to girl students, who continue their higher education and employment-oriented 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme for youth. I was extremely happy when I launched these schemes but today I am more happy than before.

Recently, I saw a video clipping of an interview by a TV journalist, asking an old woman what she would do after getting the money (Rs. 1,000) under the Scheme.

She said that so far she had not purchased medicines for her ailments as she had no money. Now she would purchase medicines with the money. Another woman said she had been taking food only once a day. Now I shall take 2 idlis in the morning, she said.

These two replies moved me. But the reply by another woman made me to feel proud about the scheme. She gave a sharp reply about the purpose of the scheme in one word.

She said that she would walk majestically if she had money in her purse. There is no greater credit to this scheme than this.

There is no greater compliment to this scheme which is being implemented on the Anna's birth anniversary and the birth centenary of Dr.Kalaignar. The replies of the beneficiaries assembled here might differ. But the benefit is the same.

A Recognition for the hard work of women

Many people indulged in false propaganda that this promise could not be honoured. They said that we had given a false assurance to deceive people. But we gave the lie to their propaganda. In fact we would have honoured the assurance immediately after coming to power. But the financial position was not conducive to implement the promise. It took two-and-a-half years to set right the financial position and honour the poll promise. Some people could not tolerate this and tried to scuttle the scheme by indulging in false propaganda. Stalin, the son of Kalaignar, is the one who will honour what he has said. The people of Tamil Nadu know this well. Functions like this are being held in different

district headquarters in the State. Even as I had come to Kancheepuram, my Ministerial colleagues are participating in functions in other District headquarters. The single signature that I had affixed, has changed the lives of many people.

A period of social reforms

It is you who gave me that power. I am occupying the post of Chief Minister and doing things for you as you had voted for the Rising Sun and the alliance parties in the last general elections.

I am utilizing the opportunity given to me by the people, for the people. This scheme has two purposes.

The first thing is to give recognition to women who toil all their lives.

The second purpose is that Rs. 12,000 per annum would support the livelihood of women, eradicate poverty and make them live with self-respect.

These two are the aims of the Dravidian Model Government. We have conceived these schemes based on lessons learnt from Arignar Anna and Dr. Kalaignar.

If you look at history only women-led societies have guided mankind. With the invention of agricultural implements, in the farm based societies, the toil of women equals that of men. But over the years, due to the influence of religion, old conventions and various dominant classes, women were confined to their houses. Education was denied to women. The contribution of women was neglected. Women were treated as slaves. It was also written that people in the lower strata as well as women were inferior creatures. But today people with honour and intelligence do not hold such views.

There was a time when women were kept separately in homes during days of their monthly menstrual cycle. They should not study, should not go to jobs and should not move out of the homes. The ruling thought was, what is the need for education for women who are confined to their kitchens. Through such conservative ideas, the majority of women were prevented from taking up employment. Child marriage was practiced.

Girls in the age of 8 and 10 were given for marriage. The situation has changed now. Still there are people, who support child marriages. It is they who hate the Dravidian movement, because child marriage is legally wrong. If a widowed woman wants to get married again, she can do so.

Today, more girl students are going to schools and colleges for study. Nobody can ask them, what is the need for you to get education. Nobody can prevent them from

taking up employment. The Dravidar Kazhagam created this social revolution.

Today more girls are studying in schools and colleges than boys. In fact they study better. Women are going to all jobs. This gender equality, making men and women equal has been brought by the Dravidian Model. In keeping with the ideals of Thanthai Periyar, the Dravidian Model Government is for raising the level of women above that of men. I feel really proud to see that children of poor mothers are now serving as doctors, engineers and teachers. Nobody can deny that. In this society, behind every successful achiever, there is a hard working woman.

The backbone of rural economy

On TV or in newspaper interviews, many successful women say that they owe their current position to their mother. Though many social reformers are responsible for the liberation of women from the clutches of slavery, the foremost among them is Thanthai Periyar's movement that laid the path for women's liberation in the 20th century. That was the reason that the title of Periyar was given to him by women at the Tamil Nadu Women's Conference in Erode in the year 1938. Even today women are the backbone of poor families and the rural economy. The hard labour of sisters or mother or wife is behind the successful men in families, who earn wages for their families. Hours of the labour of women is behind the success of men.

How many hours does a women work for the success of men and for the education and health of children. It is difficult to calculate wages for the hard work of women. But some people simply say, 'Housewife'.

If you ask a man whether his wife is employed, he would say that his wife is just a housewife. But do they remain idle in the house ? Is it possible for them to remain idle in the house? Their household work is not

taken into account. The present 'Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam' is to recognize the contribution of women.

If a man gets mother's affection, wife's support and daughter's love in his life then there is no other wealth he needs. In fact the world is run by motherhood and women. My mother Dayalu Amma is a symbol of grace. In my younger days, if I organized any function, she would pray that there should be no rain on that day.

In my political life, I used to mention even small incidents to my mother and requested her to inform my father. Now she has become old and is taking rest in our Gopalapuram residence. There is nothing equal to the joy my mother gets when I meet him.

Similarly, wife Durga is perfect for me. I was arrested under MISA on the fifth month of my married life and was in jail for a year. She was shocked as she does not come from a political family. Later, she got accustomed to such incidents in my political life. There were many ups and downs in my life. But in all that, my wife stood with me and was a companion to me. She provides me great energy.

The great man who upheld the welfare of women

Next is my daughter Senthamarai. I should say that she is the embodiment of affection. Whatever be the position I occupy, she keeps to herself and her work. She was very particular in not being perceived as a politician's daughter. She wanted to grow on her own. In that way, I am very lucky.

Merciful mother, supporting wife and self-confident daughter. I am lucky to have them with me. You, the women assembled here, have all these great qualities. Dr. Kalaignar is one who cared for the welfare of these women.

★ Dr.Kalaignar gave equal share to women in family property;

★ Dr.Kalaignar gave 30 per cent reservation in employment, which we increased to 40 per cent;

★ Dr.Kalaignar gave 33 per cent reservation for women in local body elections.

This has been increased to 50 per cent, but more than 50 per cent are occupying various posts in local bodies.

★ Gas burners with cylinders to poor women family;

★ Free education up to school for girls from the depressed classes, which was later extended to college education;

- ★ only women teachers from first to fifth standard;
- ★ Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Memorial Maternity scheme;
- ★ Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Marriage Assistance Scheme;
- ★ Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiyar Memorial Widow Remarriage Scheme; Anjugam Ammaiyar Memorial Inter-Caste Marriage Scheme and
- ★ E.V.R.Maniammaiyar Memorial Marriage scheme for daughters of poor widows.

Dr.Kalaignar implemented many welfare schemes like these for women. So it is appropriate to bring this Magalir Urimai Thittam on his birth centenary.

The schemes that are keenly observed by the whole of India

The Dravidian Model Government, which is following the path of Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna and Leader of Tamil race Dr.Kalaignar has brought many welfare schemes for women.

The Dravidian Model Government has been implementing schemes such as 'Vidiyal Payanam', 'Pudhumai Penn', Gold jewel loan waiver and revolving fund for self-help groups.

Along with the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam', the monthly pension under the old age for the non-formal workers and widows and destitutes has been increased from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,200, after nearly 12 years. Due to this, 39,14,081 pensioners will be benefited. For this, the Government has allotted an additional Rs. 940 crore. Along with 1,06,50,000 beneficiaries, and 39 lakh revised pensioners, about 1.45 crore will be benefited by the Government's Monthly pension scheme.

The entire country is looking inquisitively at our welfare schemes. When I went to other States for the I.N.D.I. Alliance co-ordination meetings, many national leaders and other State Chief Ministers enquired about our schemes and were keen to implement them in their States.

At the G-20 meeting held in New Delhi, I was invited to participate in the special party hosted by the Hon'ble President of India. At that party, some Union Ministers also enquired about our schemes. I don't consider this as a special honour to me. But I took it as an honour to the State.

We are eradicating hunger and satiating the hunger for knowledge among poor people as well. We have changed the concept that only some should study and others should not study; We have changed the idea that only a few people should come up into the idea that everybody should get everything. That is Dravidian Model Government. We are implementing the Magalir Urimai Thittam for crores of women in the name of Dr.Kalaignar.

Finally, as your brother, I would like to say one thing.

The present Government will fulfill your dreams. It will remove your worries. No more botheration. Hereafter, the sky is your limit.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens buildings for Department of Agriculture, distributes farm implements, relief

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** declared open buildings for the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department and handed over relief to farmers hit by moderate drought - 04.09.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, at the Secretariat on 04.09.2023 declared open new buildings, built at a cost of Rs. 62.42 crore, distributed orders for distribution of 3,907 power tillers, and 293 weed removers, totally worth Rs. 35 crore. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu issued orders for medium drought relief of Rs. 181.40 crore. As a token he handed over orders to three farmers.

In the history of the Government of Tamil Nadu, a separate Department for Agriculture was started for the first time and a separate budget for agriculture was presented after due interactions with farmers, to give special focus to Agriculture. To improve the income of farmers several fold, the Government has

been implementing the Kalaignar's All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Scheme, the Chief Minister's rain-fed land development scheme, 'Nel' Jayaraman traditional paddy variety protection movement, additional free power connections to 1.5 lakh farmers, separate portal for the farmers to gauge the soil fertility of their lands, mechanization of farm operations and distribution of farm implements and crop protection scheme.

Inauguration of agriculture buildings of the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department

At the Agriculture Technology Green Park in Guindy, for the Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board, an administrative building at a cost of Rs.32.64 crore, sales centre for the Regulated Market at Dharapuram in Tiruppur District, built at a cost of Rs. 4 crore, packing machinery for cooking oil and market promotion centre, costing Rs. 3.20 crore at Thellanandal in Tiruvannamalai District and integrated agriculture extension centres at Melmalayanur, Vallam and Gingee in Viluppuram District, in Kumaratchi, Keerapalayam, Kattumannarkoil in Cuddalore District, Ulundurpet in Kallakurichi District, and at Ariyalur in Ariyalur District, totally costing Rs. 62.42 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open the buildings on behalf of the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department.

Launch of distribution of power tillers and weed removers to farmers

In the annual budget for the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department for the year 2023-2024, it is said that mechanization of farm activities has become necessary, in view of the shrinking land availability. Taking this into consideration, the Kalaignar's All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Scheme was introduced in a long-term perspective. Under the scheme, power tillers will be distributed to 2,504 villages at a subsidy of Rs. 43 crore.

As per the announcement, for farmers who do agriculture in small land holdings, in the first phase power tillers to 3,907 farmers with a subsidy of Rs.35 crore, and weed removers to 293 farmers will be distributed in the first phase. As part of the inauguration of the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister issued orders for the distribution of power tillers to 2 farmers and weed removers to one farmer.

Distribution of orders for drought relief to farmers, affected by moderate drought during the 2022 North-East Monsoon

Due to shortfall in rains during the 2022 North-East Monsoon, Pudukkottai, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram, Tenkasi, Virudhunagar and Thoothukudi Districts, suffered moderate drought. Due to this drought, 33 percent of crops in about 3,52,797 acres were affected.

Revenue and Agriculture Department officials confirmed the loss of crops of 33 per cent and more in the above districts. Based on the reports received from the respective District Collectors, a Government order was issued for distribution of Rs. 181.40 crore as drought relief to 1,87,275 farmers.

As per the Government order, 1,34,305 affected farmers in Ramanathapuram District get Rs.132.71 crore, 25,847 affected farmers in Sivagangai District get Rs.25.77 crore, 17,096 farmers affected in Tenkasi District get Rs.13.85 crore, 6,746 affected farmers in Pudukkottai District get Rs.6.63 crore, 3,220 affected farmers in Virudhunagar District get Rs.2.40 crore, and 61 affected farmers in Thoothukudi District get Rs.4.43 lakh. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also directed the respective District Collectors to ensure that the relief amount was deposited in the bank accounts of the farmers.

As a part of the distribution of the relief amount, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin issued orders to 3 farmers as a token.

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over Rs. 2.24 crore to winners in Khelo India and other national event

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** distributed incentive to 134 sportspersons who won medals at the Khelo India and National-level sports competitions - 04.09.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on 04.09.2023, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority of the Youth Welfare and Sports Development Department, distributed incentive of Rs.2.24 crore to 134 sports persons who won medals in various Khelo India and National-level sports competitions. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the incentive amount to 10 sportspersons.

To develop Tamil Nadu as the best State in sports and to enable sportspersons from the State to win various international and national sports competitions, the Government of Tamil Nadu has been taking various measures, including giving proper training, and incentives to them and improving the sports infrastructure in the State.

Khelo India Youth Competition-2022 was held from 30.01.2023 to 11.02.2023 in Madhya Pradesh, in which sportspersons from all states and union territories participated.

Seven sportspersons from Tamil Nadu, who won 3 gold, 5 silver and 3 bronze medals in the Men's Athletic events, were given the incentive of Rs. 13.50 lakh;

12 members of the State Basketball team, which won silver medal, were given Rs.9 lakh;

8 fencers, who won silver and bronze medals in the fencing competitions, were given Rs. 5 lakh;

Bronze medal winner in the Judo Competition was given Rs. One lakh;

Two persons, who won bronze medal in Men's Boating event, were given Rs. 1.50 lakh;

4 Swimmers, who won one gold, 6 silver and 7 bronze medals in the swimming competitions were given Rs. 13 lakh;

In the men's tennis events, 4 sportspersons, who won 2 gold, 2 silver and one bronze medals were given Rs. 6.25 lakh;

In the weight-lifting competitions, 3 lifters, who won 2 gold and one silver medals were given Rs. 5.50 lakh;

In the yoga competition, one person who won silver medal was given Rs. 1.50 lakh;

Six women athletes, who won one gold, and 5 bronze medals in various athletic events were given Rs. 5 lakh;

In the women's badminton doubles event, 2 women, who won silver medal were given Rs. 2.25 lakh;

In the women boxing event Rs. One lakh was given to the bronze medalist;

In the women's cycling event, 3 cyclists who won 3 silver and one bronze medals were given Rs. 4 lakh;

In the women' fencing event, 4 fencers, who won 4 silver and one bronze medals, were given Rs.4 lakh;

In the women's Mallakhamb competition, sportswoman who won bronze medal was given Rs. one lakh;

In the women's rowing competition, 6 silver medalists were given Rs. 5.25 lakh;

In the women's shooting competition, gold medalist was given Rs. 2 lakh;

In the swimming competition, 4 swimmers, who won 2 gold and 5 bronze medals were given Rs. 7 lakh;

14 Women members of the Volleyball team, which won the Silver medal, were given Rs. 10.50 lakh;

4 women weight lifters, who won 3 silver and one bronze medals were given Rs. 5.50 lakh;

In the women yoga competitions, 3 women who won one gold medal and 2 bronze medals were given Rs. 3.50 lakh;

In the 64th National rifle shooting Championship-2021, Tamil Nadu team won 4 gold, 23 silver and 17 bronze medals. 17 members of the team were given Rs. 68.25 lakh;

In the 12th Archery Championship-2022, Tamil Nadu team won 4 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze medals. 15 members of the team were given Rs. 23.50 lakh;

In the National Boxing Championship-2021, Tamil Nadu won 3 bronze medals. All the three were given Rs 4.50 lakh;

In the National Boxing Championship 2021-2022, 6 women boxers who won one Gold, one silver, and 4 bronze medals were given Rs. 13 lakh;

Thiru. M.Pranesh, who won the Grandmaster Title in Chess for the year 2023 was given Rs. 5 lakh and Rakshitta Ravi, who won the Woman Grandmaster for the year 2019 was given Rs. 5 lakh.

Totally, 134 sportspersons, were given an incentive of Rs. 2.24 crore. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the incentive to 10 sportspersons.

Selvi Nila Raja Balu won the bronze medal in the National Junior Clay Pigeon Trap Competition -2021, held in Patiala, Punjab. For that, she was given an incentive cheque of Rs.1.12 lakh by the State Government. Selvi Nila Raja Balu handed over the cheque to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for the Shooting Range to be set up in Chennai as per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Thiru.Udhayanidhi Stalin. In the 65th National Junior Shooting Competition-2022, held in Delhi Selvi Nila Raja Balu won the gold medal.

Under the Tamil Nadu Government's 'Olympic Gold Quest Scheme', for the first time, internationally reputed sports trainers have been appointed to give training to State players to come out victorious in international sports events. Thiru. Bedros Bedrosian of Romania was appointed as the athletic coach for the Tamil Nadu players. Similarly, Thiru.Eric Wonink has been appointed as the Tennis Coach. Both these trainers met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin and offered their greetings.

Hon’ble Chief Minister pays respects to Kappalottiya Tamizhan, unveils statue of Dr. P. Subbarayan

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin** declared open the statue of former Chief Minister of Madras Presidency Dr. P.Subbarayan - 05.09.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, on 05.09.2023, in connection with the 152nd birth anniversary of ‘Kappalottiya Tamizhan’ V.O.Chidambaranar, paid his respects to the freedom fighter by sprinkling flower petals on his portrait, kept near his statue at the Gandhi Mandapam premises, Guindy. On the occasion, the Hon’ble Chief Minister also unveiled the new statue of former Chief Minister of Madras Presidency Dr. P. Subbarayan.

On behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, memorials, statues, arangams, commemoration pillars and monuments are set up and properly maintained to honour the significant contribution of Tamil Savants and scholars who worked for the growth

of the Tamil language, those who brought fame to the language, poets who sowed the seeds of social justice and the Independence struggle, martyrs who stand testimony to their sacrifices for the Tamil language, scholars, poets, and musical geniuses.

The foremost leader who worked for the freedom of the country is V.O.Chidambaranar. The British Government, which was irked by the activities of V.O.C. for the nation's freedom, sentenced him to double life imprisonment. He was also lodged in Kovai Central and forced to pull a stone oil press. To add to his fame, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of freedom fighter V.O.C. made 14 significant announcements. Those announcements are under implementation. V.O.C's birth anniversary is being celebrated every year by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

In this way, on the occasion of the 152nd birth anniversary of V.O.C., the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin paid floral tribute to a portrait of the great freedom fighter kept near his statue at the Gandhi Mandapam premises in Guindy.

In the budget demand for the Information and Public Relations Department for the year 2021-2022, it was announced that a life-size statue of Dr.P.Subbarayan, former Chief Minister of Madras Presidency, would be installed in Chennai to commemorate his contribution to social justice and for the growth of Tamil and the Tamil people.

As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin unveiled the statue of Dr.P.Subbarayan at the Gandhi Mandapam premises, Guindy and paid floral tribute to a portrait of Dr.P.Subbarayan, kept near his statue.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** handed over the Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award to Dr.K. Ramasamy - 05.09.2023.

Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award handed over to Dr. K.Ramasamy

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, at the Secretariat on 05.09.2023, handed over the Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award, instituted by the Institute of Classical Tamil Research to Dr.K.Ramasamy, former Deputy Director of the Central Institute of Indian Languages of the Union Government. The award includes a cash prize of Rs.10 lakh, Commendation Certificate and bronze statue of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

Due to the strenuous efforts of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, for the first time in the country, the Union Government in 2004 announced Tamil language as a Classical Language. Due to continuous insistence of Dr.Kalaignar, the Union Government announced the 'Centre of Excellence for Classical Tamil' (CECT) as a wing of the Central Institute of Indian Languages in 2006, and in 2008, the institute was named 'Central Institute of Classical Tamil' and made an autonomous body, with headquarters at Chennai and with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu as Chairman.

In view of the importance of the Institute, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar instituted Classical Tamil Language Trust on 24.07.2008 with Rs. one crore as corpus from his personal fund. Through this Trust, every year, Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award is given with a prize money of Rs. 10 lakh, a commendation certificate and a bronze statue of Dr. Kalaignar. The Award is given to scholars, who have

contributed for the development of Tamil in archaeology, Epigraphy, Numismatics, literature, linguistics, creative literature and fine arts.

After the institution of the Award, the first award was given in the year 2009 to Finland Scholar Prof. Asko Parpolo. The Award was given to him at the World Classical Tamil Language conference in Coimbatore on June 23, 2010. After that the Awards for 10 years from 2010 to 2019, were handed over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K Stalin at a function held on 22.01.2022. The Awards for the year 2020, 2021 and 2022 were given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at a function held in the Institute of Classical Tamil in Chennai on 22.08.2023.

In continuation of this, Dr. K. Ramasamy, former Deputy Director of the Central institute of Indian Languages of the Union Government and officer-in charge of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil, was selected for the Award for the year 2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu handed over the Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award to Dr.K. Ramasamy, former Deputy Director of the Central institute of Indian Languages of the Union Government .

Later, the Hon'ble Chief Minister released on behalf of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil, the books, Tolkappiyamum Sanga Ilakkiyamum, Pazham Tamil Ilakkiyangalum Nadukarkalum, Manimekalai Vazhakku Sollagarathi and Maritime trade and cultural exchange during the Sangam period.

News in Picture

Wishes for winning South Korean award and artwork on 'Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme'

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** congratulated Selvi Hanna on her victory in the International Youth Drawing Competition held in South Korea, on 04.09.2023 at the Secretariat. She then presented to the Hon'ble Chief Minister her artwork on the 'Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme'.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens upgraded roads, bridges constructed at a cost of Rs. 434.65 crore

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin** declared open bridges and roads constructed on behalf of the Highways Department - 07.09.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on 07.09.2023, through video conferencing declared open the upgraded Mohanur- Namakkal-Senthamangalam-Rasipuram two-lane road with paved shoulders, constructed at a cost of Rs. 280.73 crore, 4-lane elevated over-bridge across Buckingham Canal at Tiruvottiyur, at a cost of Rs. 58.64 crore, Palladam-Dharapuram road in Tiruppur District as widened and upgraded four-lane road, at a cost of Rs. 53.40 crore, four lane over-bridge on the Mettupalayam Road – Ganapathi Maniyakarampalayam Road Junction, at a cost of Rs. 41.88 crore.

Road infrastructure plays a major role in the development of agriculture, industries, trade and tourism, which are the major sectors of the economy. The State Government, through the State Highways Department, is laying new roads and constructing new bridges, maintaining the roads and bridges and providing link roads to rural areas.

Upgrading Mohanur- Namakkal- Senthamangalam- Rasipuram two-lane road with paved shoulders

Under the Chennai- Kanniyakumari Industrial corridor scheme, with the financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank, at a cost of Rs. 280.73 crore, the Mohanur- Namakkal –

Senthamangalam- Rasipuram Road (SH 95), to a length of 31.50 km, has been upgraded with paved shoulders into 2-way road and the same was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Under this scheme, 5 by-pass roads, rain water drainage, 53 mini bridges, and 3 small bridges, street lights, CCTV cameras and drinking water and toilet facilities at bus stops have been provided. As by-pass roads have been provided for the important villages, Muthukapatti, Senthamangalam, Kalapanaicken Patti, Belukurichi and Singalananthapuram, travel time and traffic congestion on this section will be reduced. Vehicles bound for Kolli Hills, an important tourist centre in Namakkal District, from Chennai, Bangalore and Coimbatore can easily reach the destination. In addition, agriculture produce from more than 21 villages in Namakkal District will have easy transportation to the near-by towns.

Widening of Tiruvottiyur- Ponneri-Panchetti Road, elevated bridge on road across Buckingham Canal

Under the Chennai Metropolitan Development Scheme, at a cost of Rs. 58.64 crore, the elevated bridge across Buckingham Canal on the Tiruvottiyur- Ponneri-Panchetti Road and widened of the 2 lane road into a 4 lane road. The upgraded road was thrown open for traffic by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The old 5.50 metre-long narrow bridge on the Tiruvottiyur- Ponneri –Panchetti Road has become weak. It was reconstructed and broadened. Factories like CPCL, IOCL and MFL are functioning around this area and there is movement of heavy vehicles on this road. The new bridge will reduce the traffic congestion on this road and reduce accidents. Vehicles from Tiruvottiyur to Manali, Madhavaram, Minjur and Koyambedu will have free movement. Similarly, the vehicles from Manali, Tondiarpet, Korukkupet, Royapuram and Chennai will have easy flow.

Palladam-Dharapuram 2-way road upgraded and converted into 4 lane road

The Palladam- Dharapuram road has been converted into a 4 lane road from 2-lane road, at a cost of Rs. 53.40 crore, and the same was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Under the scheme, 8 km-long road has been widened into 4-lane road, along with the provision of cross drainage, bus stop construction, rain water drainage and formation of median strip.

This road is close to wind power generation companies, poultry units and bee-hive units. This road is one of the major traffic roads in Tiruppur District and is the mainline road for small villages. Since the urban area located in the Palladam - Dharapuram road serves as the lifeline of the people living in the nearby hamlets, Villagers use this road for taking their farm products, including vegetables and cash products, to nearby towns for marketing. Moreover, this road provides an ideal link for the pilgrims going to the temple-town of Palani and tourist towns Ooty and Kodaikanal.

Construction of over-bridge at Goundampalayam in Coimbatore

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated 658-metre-long over-bridge at the junction of Coimbatore – Mettupalayam and Ganapathi Maniyakarampalayam Road on the National

Highways 67 (Nagapattinam –Gudalur – Mysore Road), constructed at a cost of Rs. 41.88 crore.

Following the inauguration of the over-bridge, traffic congestion and accidents at the G.N.Mills Junction and in 4 other roads will be reduced to a great extent. Again vehicles from Thudiyalur to Saibaba Colony, Railway Station, Bell Tower, Government Hospital, Gandhipuram, Ukkadam, Pollachi and Palani junctions will have easy movement. At the base level of the bridge, vehicles from Kasinanjagoundanpudur, Ganapathi, Urumandampalayam, Chinna Vedampatti, Maniyakaranpalayam and Saravanampatti, will have easy movement.

Let us know...

Hon'ble Chief Minister announces allocation of Rs.3 crore for Tamil translation of HC judgments

- The resolution on the historic two-language formula was adopted by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in January 1968, when Perarignar Anna was the Chief Minister of the State. Since then, the two-language formula has been followed in various departments. To foster the use of Tamil and to develop Tamil in keeping with the times, the Government of Tamil Nadu has been taking various measures.
- To make Tamil the legal official language, the State Official Language Commission and the Tamil wing of the Legal Department have published the Tamil legal dictionary and Tamil translation of the Union and State Governments' laws, ordinances and the regulations under them.
- Muthamizharignar Kalaignar took various measures to make Tamil the official language in the Hon'ble Madras High Court. During the birth centenary celebrations of Dr.Kalaignar, to make his dream of Tamil as the High Court language a reality and to make the judgements of the High Court reach all people in the State, I have ordered the State Official Language Commission to translate the judgements of the High Court in Tamil, for the use of the public and the advocates.
- For this purpose, the State Government has sanctioned Rs.3 crore in the first phase and decided to release the required funds subsequently. As per the words of Poet Bharathidasan that one should make Tamil grow in every sphere, we will get the proper place for the Tamil in the Legal sphere also.

Hon'ble Chief Minister administers pledge against drug use to school and college students

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** at the 'Drug Free Tamil Nadu' event at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai -11.08.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the 'Drug Free Tamil Nadu' event in Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai, organized by the Police Department, administered the pledge against drugs to the NSS and NCC volunteers, as well as school and college students. Through video conferencing, school and college students from all over the State took the anti-drug pledge.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also directed the police to take strict action against drug trafficking, to increase the propaganda against drug use in schools and colleges and to take severe action to eradicate drugs in whatever form they were circulated.

In continuation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister's directive, to undertake activities against drugs continuously, the Police Department

on 11.08.2022 organized the Drug-free Tamil Nadu function at Kalaivanar Arangam. At this function, the Hon'ble Chief Minister administered the pledge against drug to NSS and NCC volunteers and school and college students. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated on the occasion, the Enforcement Bureau Crime Investigation Department, formed by merging the prohibition enforcement wing and the narcotics intelligence bureau CID, to strengthen the fight against drugs..

Pledge: I know fully well the evil effects of drug addiction. I will not become an addict to drugs. I shall also prevent my family and friends from getting addicted to drugs. I commit myself to reforming those who are addicted to drugs and bringing them back to normal life.

I will stand with the Government in its efforts to eradicate drugs from Tamil Nadu through measures against the manufacture, consumption, and utilization of drugs and I shall support the activities to eradicate the narcotic drugs in the State. I sincerely assure that I will do my part for the development of the State and the people's well being.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister released a short film on awareness about eradicating drugs, produced by the Enforcement Investigation Department. This film which shows the bad effects of drug use, will be shown in all theatres in Tamil Nadu. To attract students, a video song on the impact of drugs which has been tuned to attract students, was also released on the occasion.

Following this, 13,000 kg Marijuana and narcotic drugs seized by the police during various raids were destroyed by following the normal guidelines.

As a part of the move to create drug-free Tamil Nadu, in more than 20,000 anti-drug clubs in schools and colleges in the State, a new special volunteering scheme has been launched for continuing the drug awareness programme through NCC and NSS volunteers.

Following stringent action taken against narcotic drugs, in the years 2022 and 2023, 16,023 cases have been registered against 22,447 offenders and 42,337 kg of Marijuana, 1,234 kg of heroin, 74,412 drug tablets, and 223 kg of other

narcotic substances have been seized. Under Tamil Nadu Act against drug offenders, the bank accounts of criminals and their families were impounded and steps are being taken to seize their properties. So far, movable and immovable properties worth Rs. 18.15 crore, have been seized.

During the function, the Hon'ble Chief Minister interacted with the NSS and NCC volunteers and school and college students.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the event

I greet all of you. The 'Drug-free Tamil Nadu' Scheme was launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu with the noble idea of making Tamil Nadu free from narcotic drugs. The aim of the scheme is to prevent drug trafficking and to take stern action against those who engage in the sale and trafficking and to create awareness among the younger generation about the evil effects of drug addiction.

Due to the implementation of the scheme, criminal activities in the State have come down substantially. We cannot claim that we have completely eradicated drug trafficking. What I am saying is that it is being considerably reduced. This reduction in drug trafficking is due to the commitment of the Police Department and responsible action taken by it. For that, I first of all thank the Police Department.

There should not be any slackness in the enthusiasm and interest till the drug trafficking is completely eradicated.

The scheme was launched last year. Doctors and the public welcomed it as an excellent scheme. They said that the Government has a duty to reform the drug-addicted students and youth from this dreaded habit. The Government has been functioning in this direction to live up to their expectation and faith.

Drug addiction is a deadly disease, which harms not only the individual but also the families of addicts and the whole of society.

It affects the growth of the individual and the nation's growth as well. Those who have drug dependence and those who are addicted to drugs become a great burden to society. That is the reason why this Government, from the moment it took over, is seriously engaged in curtailing drug trafficking.

When I inaugurated the programme last year, I said that the chain of drug sales should be broken. Stringent steps should be taken to prevent sale of drugs in and around educational institutions.

I had used strong words and said that I would act like a dictator in curbing drug trafficking and sales. Based on that only, the

Government is taking steps. I have issued orders that those who repeatedly engage in drug sale should be booked under the Goondas Act.

Last Year, on August 10, for the first time, we formed a State-level group and organized a meeting with the thrust on a 'Drug free Tamil Nadu'. At the meeting, we took certain important decisions and devised new initiatives.

Following this, a big anti-drugs pledge movement was taken on 11th August, 2022 in which over 70 lakh students took anti-drugs pledge. This programme was successfully completed and created a new inspiration against narcotic drugs. There was very good response from the media and the public for the Government initiative.

In the Southern Districts, in schools, colleges and public places, complaint numbers were prominently displayed for giving information about the prevalence of narcotic drugs. We have taken various steps to control the drug habit, which include registration of cases, arrest , seizure of drugs and impounding properties.

The activities of criminals against whom cases were registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act since 2019 were monitored and arrests made on this basis.

Apart from that, enquiry against their finances and properties and freezing of bank accounts, was also undertaken by the Government. Financial enquiries against those who were involved in the sale and smuggling of drugs were made and their movable and immovable properties were impounded under the necessary laws. Since August 11, 2022, financial enquiries were conducted against 154 criminals and their 45 movable and immovable properties have been seized.

So far 16,000 kg of narcotic drugs have been destroyed, the highest in the history of the State. For taking these activities, I congratulate the DGP and Narcotics Drugs Prevention and Intelligence wing ADGP, Thiru. Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal and all the police personnel, who were involved in the operations. My salute to you.

In the last one year, the bank accounts of 5,184 persons against whom criminal cases were filed under the NDPS Act were impounded. We have made the State free of marijuana cultivation. Marijuana comes in to Tamil Nadu, mainly from Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, and from the north eastern states of the country.

Taking all these into consideration, we are taking various measures to prevent smuggling of marijuana into the State. Though the situation is not as bad as in some other States, we have taken precautionary measures such as prevention of narcotic drugs and awareness programmes.

* I would like to remind you of one point which I have been repeatedly stressing. Every Police Personnel must take up the

responsibility of ensuring that the sale of narcotic drugs within the amidst of their Police Station has been completely banned. Cultivation of marijuana should be completely stopped.

* The foothills should be monitored. For preventing marijuana Smuggling from neighbouring states,
* more check posts should be formed in border districts;
* vigilance along coastal districts should be increased.
* Police patrolling should be increased. There should be complete co-operation among all departments.
* There should be permanent monitoring of areas where narcotic drugs are heavily sold.
* Drug sales around schools and colleges should be prevented.
* Anti-drug clubs should be set up in every school and college and a drug free campus should be announced.

Over 20,000 anti drug clubs have been formed throughout the State. This, I hope, will create a healthy and responsible next generation. To prevent the trafficking of narcotic drugs, I conduct frequent meetings under my chairmanship and directives are being issued. I have already announced that the Chief Minister's Police Medal and Special Medal will be given to the police officers and police personnel who perform in an exemplary manner to prevent the cultivation and trafficking of narcotic drugs. Based on this, June 26 every year is observed as International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and 6 police officers and constables have been given the medals.

To take the message of the Government's Anti-drug activities we have organized anti-drug pledges in all educational institutions. Government employees, students, educational institutions should dedicate themselves to creating a drug free Tamil Nadu.

Students from various educational institutions have assembled here. In school, they taught you that health is wealth. You should keep this in mind. The teachers also should repeatedly remind students about this. Even if you have wealth, only if you have good health, you can continue to work and keep the hard-earned money and be happy. I appeal to teachers to teach students about this.

As far as drug eradication is concerned, prevention and creating awareness should go hand-in-hand. Both the police and the public should have the same motive.

If these four factors are there, we will surely be able to create a 'Drug Free Tamil Nadu'.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

Hon’ble Chief Minister meets kids who have benefitted from Nutrition Guarantee Programme

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on 12.08.2023, met children who have benefitted under the Tamil Nadu Government’s Nutrition Guarantee Programme, under the ‘Etramigu Ezhu Thittangal’ (Seven Key Schemes). The Hon’ble Chief Minister enquired of the parents about the health condition of a four-year old Varun, two-year old Nuzaiah, and two-and-a-half-year-old Saithiran. The Hon’ble Chief Minister also enquired about the health of two-year old Harshith and Tejasri (two years and 8 months), who were operated for heart problems detected in special medical camps. The Hon’ble Chief Minister of also handed over nutrition packages and toys to the children.

Healthy children are the future of a prosperous nation. Taking this into consideration, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin made a statement in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 07.05.2022, under Rule 110, that to ensure the growth of healthy children under 6 years,

medical examinations would be conducted. The Government is also providing medical assistance to children who need it. He also announced that the Government had decided to launch a special Nutrition Guarantee Programme for nutrition-deficient children in the State.

Under this programme, the Integrated Child Development Project in coordination with the Health Department would conduct special medical camps for children with moderate to severe nutrition deficiency. The children would be classified as children who required medical assistance and the nutrition-deficient children and steps would be taken to improve their nutrition level.

Under the Nutrition Guarantee Programme, a special medical camp was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, on 21.05.2022 at the Children Centre at Muthorai in Doddabetta Panchayat Union in the Nilgiris District.

Under this scheme, about 9.3 lakh children within 6 years who have moderate to severe nutrition deficiency will be put to medical tests by RBSK Group. Of these, 43,200 children underwent various kinds of medical treatment, including surgery, at the District Primary Centres.

A Government order was issued allotting Rs. 18.68 crore for distributing Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) to children in the age group 6 months to 6 years for 8 weeks. Similarly a Government order was issued to supply Nutri kit to mothers with 0 to 6 months old children. For this, the Government allotted Rs.8.68 crore. This scheme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, at a function at Anna Centenary Library in Chennai on

28.02.2023. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed special nutrition kits to nutrient deficient children and to their mothers under the 'Yetramigu Ezhu Thittangal' (Seven Key Schemes).

There has been substantial improvement in the nutrition level of children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years. Of the 92,015 children who were given special nutritious food, 61,788 (66.6 per cent) children showed improvement in their nutritional level. Similarly, significant improvement has been noted in 13,319 (89.4%) out of 14,901 children of 0 to 6 months old, whose mothers were given special Nutri kits.

The growth of all children is being monitored continuously. This scheme has also created awareness about nutrition among mothers of children up to 6 months. Under the scheme, 3,038children who suffer at an early age from heart diseases, retarded brain growth, eye and ear deficiencies, were detected. They were all operated and their condition is reported to be good.

Hon’ble Chief Minister unveils statue of 'Kalaimamani' T.M.Soundararajan in Madurai

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, unveiled the statue of playback singer ‘Kalaimamani’ T.M.Soundararajan, in connection with his birth centenary at the Munichalai Junction of the Madurai Corporation East Zonal office, on 16.08.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** unveiled the statue of playback singer, 'Kalaimamani' T.M.Soundararajan - 16.08.2023.

‘Kalaimamani’ T.M. Soundararajan was born in 1923 in Madurai. He learnt music at a young age. For over 50 years, right from 1950 he excelled as a great playback singer, with the support of the Tamil people. He was affectionately called T.M.S. by the people of Tamil Nadu, and sang over 10,000 songs. He has etched a memorable place for himself in the hearts of people.

He was given the title ‘Ezhisai Mannar’ by Dr.Kalaignar and conferred the Kalaimamani title for the year 1974 -1975 and Padmashri in 2003. Apart from film songs, he also sang devotional songs and through his melodious voice, he mingled

with the lives of Tamil. He died on 25.05.2013.

To honour the memory of Kalaimamani T.M.Soundararajan, on the occasion of his birth centenary, Mandaveli West Circle Road in Chennai, where he lived, was named T. M. Soundararajan Salai by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin. On the same day, a music concert of his songs was also held at Kalaivanar Arangam in Chennai.

In the 2023-2024 budget demand for the Information and Publicity Department, it was announced that a statue of playback singer T.M.Soundararajan would be installed in Madurai.

As per the announcement, it was decided to install the statue at the Corporation complex of the East Zonal Office, Madurai near the Munichalai Junction.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin declared open the statue and paid his respects to the great singer by floral tribute to his portrait kept near the statue. Family members of 'Kalaimamani' TM.Soundararajan profusely thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for unveiling the statue.

HR and CE Department excels in its work

The Dravidian Model Government, which stands for 'everything for everyone', is progressing at a faster phase in all Departments.

The activities of the HR and CE Department are especially excellent in all aspects.

The DMK Government has retrieved properties worth Rs. 5,000 crore belonging to the Department in the last two years.

Today, the HR and CE Department is conducting the 1,000th Temple consecration, with the performance of the consecration of the Arulmigu Kasi Viswanathar Temple at West Mambalam in Chennai.

This Government is appreciated as an unparalleled Government by all believers of God.

-Social media post of the
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K.Stalin - 10.09.2023.

Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes welfare assistance to fisherfolk

'We will retrieve Katchatheevu and protect the fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen'

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin distributed Government welfare benefits, worth Rs. 88.90 crore, to 14,000 beneficiaries, at a function in Mandapam in Ramanathapuram District on 18.08.2023, organized jointly by the Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation and fisheries associations. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over welfare measures to 60 beneficiaries.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing various programmes, including protection of fishing resources, increasing fish growth through sustainable fishing practices and encouragement to fish farming practices, safe berthing of fishing crafts, ensuring hygienic handling of fishes from the point of catch to the point of sale to consumers, setting up fishing harbours, fish landing centres, coastal facilities, improving the infrastructure of fish markets, extending assistance to fishermen during the period of fishing ban, supply of tax-free diesel, supply of kerosene at subsidized prices, new tuna fish nets and 50 per cent subsidy for the purchase of mechanized boats.

In continuation of these measures, to improve the standard of living of fishermen, on behalf of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, for the beneficiaries of Ramanathapuram, Rameswaram, Keezhakarai, Tiruvadanai and R.S.Mangalam Taluks, free house site pattas, extension of subsidy for construction of tuna fishing boats, on behalf of the Fisheries and Fishermen

Welfare Department, Prime Minister's 'Matsya Sampada Yojana' Scheme, Kisan credit cards, seaweed development, Fishermen Welfare Board membership cards, financial assistance under the entrepreneur development programme of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department, extending assistance to self-help groups on behalf of the Co-operative Department, K.C.C. loan assistance for growth of seaweed and loan assistance under the women welfare scheme and self help group loan assistance. Totally, 14,000 beneficiaries were given assistance at the function. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister gave away the assistance to 60 beneficiaries.

Earlier, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited an exhibition, organized by the Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin on the occasion:

My warm welcome to all of you.

I am now participating in the fishermen welfare conference in Mandapam, following the request of the Hon'ble Ministers, Thiru. Thangam Thenarasu, Thiru. Anitha Radhakrishnan and Thiru. Raja Kannappan and MLA Thiru. Kadhar Batcha Muthuramalingam .

The Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation and the fishermen associations have jointly organized the function. Normally in Government functions, fishermen associations will not participate and similarly, in fishermen conferences, State officials will not participate. But here, the Ministers and the associations have jointly organized this function.

Tamil Nadu has the longest coastline of 1,076 kilometres. According to Ptolemy's Geographical Guide, even many hundreds of years back, our ships visited various countries. Our ancient Tamil people used various types of boats such as Catamaran, Naavai, Thoni, Vathai, Vallam, Midhavai, Odam, Theppam, Dingi, Pattuva, Vangam, Ambi and Thimil.

Our Tamil people had sailed in all the seas surrounding us. Many foreign travellers have come to the Tamil Nadu coast. Tamil Nadu is linked with other nations through sea. Sea is not only deep, but it is full of resources. In fishing operations, Tamil Nadu occupies the fifth biggest State. To that extent, our fishermen are contributing to the development of fisheries in Tamil Nadu.

"Why is sea water salty? it is due to the tears shed by the Tamils in alien lands", said Perarignar Anna. The present Government has realized that the sea water is salty not only due to tears shed by Tamils in alien lands but also due to tears shed by coastline

fishermen. To alleviate their sufferings, the present Government had initiated many welfare schemes. Fishermen Welfare Board, relief during the fishing ban period, kerosene at subsidized price for fishermen of Kanniyakumari, Nellai and Thoothukudi Districts; all these welfare measures were introduced by Dr.Kalaignar during his period.

On behalf of the Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department, the Government has implemented many welfare schemes. The Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Anitha Radhakrishnan is functioning not only as the Minister of the Department but as a friend of fishermen.

I would like to remind you of some of the welfare measures introduced by the Government in the last 2 years.

Most of you might already be aware of these schemes and many of the earlier speakers had already mentioned them in their speeches. But I would like to repeat it for the public and media men to know about those schemes.

- We have changed the name of the Fisheries Department as Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department.
- We have increased the relief during the fish ban period from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000. At present 1.80 lakh, families are getting the relief assistance.
- We have increased the reservation of seats for the B.A (Fisheries) course in Tamil Nadu Fisheries University from 5 per cent to 20 per cent.
- Relief to the families of the missing fishermen families has been increased from Rs.250 to Rs.350 per day.
- The assistance to members of the Fishermen's Welfare Board who died naturally has been increased from Rs. 15,000 to Rs.25,000.
- To prevent sea erosion in fishing villages, to berth the boats of fishermen safely, we have constructed sea erosion walls, fish landing centres and walls and groynes.
- During the fish ban period every year Rs.5,000 is being given to a fishermen's family. About 1.50 lakh families of fishermen are getting the benefit every year.
- We are implementing the Marine Fishermen Savings cum Relief Scheme. The State Government is contributing Rs. 62.19 crore as its contribution to about 2.07 lakh fishermen in the State.

- Under the Savings cum relief scheme for marine fisher women about 2 lakh fisherwomen are benefiting.
- Fishermen need diesel for power boats. We have given tax exemption annually to the tune of 18,000 litres for power boats and 4,000 litres for country boat.
- Similarly, for the motor-fitted country boats of Thoothukudi, Nellai and Kanniyakumari District, the Government is giving subsidized kerosene.
- For the purchase of motors for the country boats, the Government is giving 40 per cent subsidy.
- Subsidy is given for the purchase of 10-metre-long glass fibre boats, motors, nets and freezer boxes.
- 50 per cent subsidy is given for constructing new Tuna Long Liner Cum Gillnetter Fishing Vessels.
- A multi-purpose seaweed park is being set up at a cost of Rs. 127.71 crore to encourage seaweed development.
- To undertake seaweed cultivation by 1,311 fisherwomen in Ramanathapuram, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari Districts, Rs. 1.42 crore is to be given as subsidy for purchase of seaweed breeding floats and ropes.

Mixing with families of fisherfolk

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on his way to Rameswaram from Ramanathapuram, visited a colony of fisherfolk in Akkalmadam in Pamban Panchayat in Rameswaram Taluk in Ramanathapuram District, on 17.08.2023 and interacted with families.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, while on his way to Mandapam in Ramanathapuram District for participating in the welfare measures distribution function, organized jointly by the Tamil Nadu State Apex Co-operative Federation and fishermen associations, on 18.08.2023, met the fishermen in the Akkalmadam Fisheries Colony and interacted with the fishermen families. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, enquired about their requirements. At that time, people in the area requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister to grant house site pattas to them. The Hon'ble Chief Minister assured them that necessary steps would be taken to grant house pattas to them. He also enquired of the women in the colony whether they had applied for the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam. He received petitions from them.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also met the students in the colony and enquired about their studies.

- For the fishermen of Thiruvallur, Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi Districts, subsidy is given for setting up floating cages in sea.
- Sea floating cages are being set up in Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu, Cuddalore, Viluppuram, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram and Kanniyakumari Districts.
- Rs.14 crore has been allotted by the Government for setting up new shrimp farms in 100 hectares to encourage shrimp farming.
- With the utilization of new technologies, to grow shrimps in minimum water, 25 live shrimp farm units will be set up with a subsidy of Rs. 4.50 crore.
- The Government has accorded sanction of Rs.30 lakh as subsidy for setting up one marine fish hatchery unit in Mayiladuthurai and Ramanathapuram Districts.
- To improve inland fish production, various measures are being taken.
- We are giving 6 months training to youth from fisherfolk families for the UPSC examinations and so far 41 students have benefitted.
- The Government has given financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 27.75 lakh for the students of fishermen community to pursue Marine-based education.
- For 1,000 fishermen community people we have given marine life protection training, at a cost of Rs. 47.20 lakh.
- Through the Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board, relief to the tune of Rs. 12.43 crore has been given to 9,547 beneficiaries.
- In the last 2 years, 42 infrastructure development schemes, costing Rs. 431.42 crore have been completed and inaugurated by me.
- Under 109 fisheries infrastructure development schemes, fishing harbours, fish landing centres, marine protection, Government fish farms infrastructure and administrative building construction are being carried out at a total cost of Rs. 1,296.03 crore.

So far, I have listed the schemes that have been implemented by this Government in the last 2 years.

Now, I shall be giving welfare schemes worth Rs.88.90 crore to 14,000 beneficiaries through this function. It would not be proper for me if I do not make announcements in this function in which fishermen have gathered in large numbers. Hence, I wish to make few important announcements that are being expected by our fishermen.

First Announcement:

Under the houses for fishermen scheme, house site pattas will be given to 5,035 fishermen.

Second Announcement:

Co-operative loan will be given to 45,000 persons for fishing operations.

Third Announcement, the most important:

Rs. 5,000 given to fishermen during the fishing ban period will be increased to Rs.8,000.

This was a major assurance made by the DMK in its Election manifesto. I am happy to announce that this relief will be received by 1.70 lakh fishermen in the State. Also, 15,000

fishermen, who are above 60 years of age will be given the relief during the ban period.

Fourth Announcement:

For 1,000 traditional country boat fishermen 40 per cent subsidy will be given for purchase of motors.

Fifth Announcement:

For the registered country boat owners in Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari Districts, supply of subsidized kerosene has been increased from 3,400 litres to 3,700 litres.

Sixth Announcement:

I am happy to announce that accepting the demand of fishermen, the diesel quota for power boats has been increased from 18,000 litres to 19,000 litres and for motor-fixed country boats from 4,000 litres to 4,400 litres.

Seventh Announcement:

Steps have been taken for setting up Thangachimadam fishing harbour. To improve the fish-landing centre at Kundukal, steps are being taken. I have issued an order to set up a groyne in Pamban North village.

Eighth Announcement:

Under the fishermen's accident insurance scheme, order has been issued for relief to 205 families. 25 families of fishermen who were missing during fishing operations, will be given a revolving fund.

Ninth Announcement:

Under the housing scheme for fishermen, unit money for houses has been increased from Rs 1.70 lakh to Rs.2.40 lakh.

Finally, the Tenth Announcement :

There is a long-pending demand from the fishermen to set up groynes in their fishing villages, to prevent sea erosion and to ensure the safety of boats.

Due to a pending case in the National Green Tribunal, we are not able to concede the demand immediately. For this a sea management scheme is to be devised soon and after getting necessary permissions, groynes will be constructed wherever necessary and possible. The announcements I have made so far will benefit about 2,77,347 fishermen. For this, we are going to allot Rs.1,000 crore and this will be given to fishermen. Your other demands will also be conceded step by step. Because this Government is not my Government, but your Government, which runs for you. So you need not worry about anything.

We will meet the demands which pertain to the State. But the issues fishermen face at sea while fishing are still there.

This conference condemns the attack and arrest of fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy. This is one of the unsolved issues of the fishermen of Tamil Nadu. The fishermen have been facing this issue, right from the day Sri Lankan Tamils started fighting for their rights.

Tamil Nadu fishermen are not allowed to carry on their fishing operations peacefully. The same attack, same arrest and torture in prisons. The oppression has increased after the BJP Government came to power in 2014. Apart from arrest, attack, and imprisonment, nets and boats of fishermen, worth several lakh have been seized by the Sri Lankan Navy.

Even if the fishermen are released, their boats are not returned. The life line of fishermen are their boats and nets. But they were destroyed by the Sri Lankan Government. The situation

has turned worse with the Sri Lankan President claiming that the seized boats belonged to the Sri Lankan Government.

I hope that you would not have forgotten that the BJP leader late Sushma Swaraj, while participating in the Sea Lotus agitation, sponsored by the BJP in Pamban claimed that if the BJP came to power at the Delhi, then Katchatheevu would be retrieved and a permanent solution would be found for the Sri Lankan issue. Whether her assurance had come to reality in the last 9 years?

In Rameswaram, in April 2014, Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru.Narendra Modi said that arrest of Tamil Nadu fishermen and imprisonment had become a daily feature. This was due to the weak Congress Government. Now I ask the BJP Government, has the attack had come down in the last 9 years ?

If the fishermen were to live peacefully, Thiru. Modi said then there should be a strong Government in India. At this juncture, I would like to make a promise for the fishermen's life to flourish, said Thiru. Modi in April 2014, in Kumari. Has he kept the promise?

If we came to power, not a single fisherman would die. While Sri Lanka is the problem for the Tamil Nadu fishermen, it was Pakistan for Gujarat fishermen. We would organize a meeting of these two fishermen and take joint action. This was stated by Thiru. Narendra Modi.

Whether the attack on Tamil Nadu has stopped after 2014 ?

Attacks were made in 2015 and in 2016 also. In the year 2017, Britto, a fisherman from Thangachimadam was murdered. The attack on Tamil Nadu fishermen has been continuing.

Today, the Indian Government is extending assistance for retrieving Sri Lanka from its economic crisis. But still the attack on our fishermen continues. Every time, I write a letter to the Union Government. After that some action is taken.

From 2020 to today, the Sri Lankan Navy has indulged in 48 attacks and 619 Tamil Nadu fishermen have been arrested.

83 fishing boats have been seized. So far 16 boats and 604 arrested Tamil Nadu fishermen have been released. In the current year alone, 74 Tamil Nadu fishermen were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy. Still 67 Fishermen boats are with the Sri Lankan Government.

If the attack on the Tamil Nadu Fishermen continues, it means the Modi Government is weak.

The then External Affairs Minister, Tmt. Sushma Swaraj met the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Mangala Samara weera during her tenure. At the meeting, it was decided that a joint meeting on this issue would be conducted once in 3 months and on any account there should not be loss of lives. This was accepted by both the Governments. The next day, fishermen of both the countries met. But the Sri Lankan Government did not honour the decisions.

The Sri Lankan Minister claimed that the Sri Lankan Navy had the power to shoot at Tamil Nadu fishermen if they trespassed into Sri Lankan waters. The boats of Tamil Nadu would be taken over by the Sri Lankan Government.

One Crore Tree Planting Scheme in Ramanathapuram District

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at a review meeting at the Ramanathapuram Inspection Bungalow, inaugurated on 18.08.2023, the one crore tree planting scheme in Ramanathapuram District, under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, by distributing saplings. Under the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Dream Scheme of Green Tamil Nadu Mission, it has been planned to plant one crore tree saplings in Ramanathapuram and the tree planting is being done throughout the District by various Departments. Saplings of Perunelli, Vagai, Bamboo, Banyan, Peepal, Kodukapuli, Athi, Vilampazham, Guava, and Poovarasu are being planted.

As a mark of inaugurating the one crore tree saplings planting scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, handed over the tree saplings to the beneficiaries. One crore tree saplings would be planted in Ramanathapuram District, before January next year.

After the Modi Government came to power, 122 seized boats were nationalized by the Sri Lankan Government. The arrests by the Sri Lankan Government continued. They refuse to hand over the seized boats. Who is to take the responsibility? The BJP Government. Every time our fishermen are attacked, we take the issue to the Union Government. They in turn take the issue to the Sri Lankan Government. But the attacks and arrests continue. If a permanent solution is to be found for this issue, then Katchatheevu should be retrieved. That is the only lasting solution to this issue.

Whenever Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru. Narendra Modi comes to Chennai we place this demand before him. Even when the Sri Lankan President came to India last week, I wrote a letter in this connection on 19.07.2023. But some people here were alleging that Katchatheevu was handed over to Sri Lanka during the DMK regime. They do not know the history of the issue.

In 1971, when the Sri Lanka Government claimed the ownership of Katchatheevu, the then Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaignar directed Law Professor S.Krishnaswamy to collect records to show that the island belongs to us.

He released the records in December 1973. But it was violated and an agreement was signed between the two Governments on June 26, 1974 by the Prime Ministers of both the countries.

You must look at it carefully. This is only an agreement, not an Act. No Act was adopted in Parliament and it was not supported by the DMK in Parliament. Immediately, Dr.Kalaignar went to Delhi and met the then Prime Minister

Indira Gandhi and insisted that Katchatheevu should not be handed over to Sri Lanka.

Dr.Kalaignar also handed over the records to the Prime Minister and at that time, the then Law Minister S.Madhavan also accompanied Dr. Kalaignar. After returning to Chennai, he again wrote a letter based on these documents.

Katchatheevu was never a part of Sri Lanka. Maps of the Dutch and Portuguese also prove this fact. Even in the map released by the Sri Lankan Government, Katchatheevu was not shown as part of Sri Lanka. There were many records to prove that the right to take chunks on the way to the Theevu and on the western side of the Theevu was with the Ramanathapuram Raja. He had not paid any levy to the Sri Lanka Government for taking chanks from the shores of Katchatheevu. So it can be proved in the international court that Katchatheevu is a part of Tamil Nadu. These records were collected and handed over to the Union Government by Dr.Kalaignar.

He met the then Foreign Affairs Minister Swaran Singh and the Foreign Secretary, Thiru. Kewal Singh and handed over these documents.

DMK MP Thiru. Murasoli Maran claimed in Parliament that handing over Katchatheevu would not affect India but affect only Tamil Nadu. DMK Member R.Chezhian also registered his protest and walked out of the House. Three days after the signing of the Agreement, Dr.Kalaignar convened an all-party meeting in Chennai on 29.06.1974 and adopted a resolution which was sent to the Union Government. The only party, which walked out of the all-party meeting was the AIADMK.

Till today, they have done only one thing, betray Tamil Nadu.

At the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly meeting on 21.08.1974, a special motion was moved by the then Chief Minister, Dr.Kalaignar and sent to the Union Government. Protest meetings were held throughout the State on behalf of the DMK. The DMK high command announced that the meetings would start on July 14 and be conducted in 45 important cities in Tamil Nadu.

Dr.Kalaignar addressed the meeting in Thanjavur, Perasiriyar spoke at Chennai and I spoke at Sriperumbudur. If somebody says that Katchatheevu was given away by the DMK Government only, without a basic knowledge of the facts and without honesty, it is not only shameless but also condemnable.

Denying admission to Tamil Nadu fishermen to Katchatheevu is to deny the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen. So immediately, the Union Government should take steps to annul the agreement.

The Union Government should take steps at the diplomatic level immediately. If the BJP Government did not take such a move, the next Union Government, to be formed after the Lok Sabha election will take the necessary steps to adopt such a resolution.

We will retrieve Katchatheevu and protect the rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen. The Dravidian Model Government will always support fishermen. I am giving the assurance that I, Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin will function in this way. I appeal to the fishermen community to continue their support to us, and I take leave of you .

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for desalination plant worth Rs. 4,276.44 crore at Perur

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** laid the foundation stone for the desalination plant of 400 million litre capacity at Perur - 21.08.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, at the Secretariat on 21.08.2023, on behalf of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, with the financial assistance of the Japanese International Co-operation Agency (JICA), laid the foundation stone for a desalination plant of 400 million litre capacity, at a cost of Rs. 4,276.44 crore, at Perur on the East Coast Road, in Chengalpattu District.

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar declared open the desalination plant at Minjur

To meet the growing needs of drinking water in Greater Chennai, a desalination plant with a capacity of 100 million litre, was planned at Minjur on the basis of 'Design, Build, Own, Operate and Transfer' (DBOOT) model and the foundation stone for the plant was laid on 25.02.2007 by the then Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration Thiru. M.K.Stalin, the present Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

The construction and the installation of the plant was completed within the scheduled time and the plant was declared open by the then Chief Minister, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. About 10 lakh people in Manali, Madhavaram, Ennore, Kathivakkam, Tiruvottiyur, Tondiarpet and Vyasarpadi areas in North Chennai are being benefitted by the plant.

Desalination plant at Nemili

Following this, at Nemili, the then Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and the present Hon'ble

Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin laid the foundation for a desalination plant at Nemili with a capacity of 100 million litre per day, on 23.02.2010.

The plant, which is functioning in an excellent manner, caters to the drinking water needs of about 9 lakh people in Thoraipakkam, Perungudi, Kottivakkam, Palavakkam, Thiruvanmiyur, Velachery, Taramani, Pallipattu, Adyar, Besant Nagar, Nandanam, M.R.C. Nagar, Raja Annamalaipuram and Mylapore.

Another desalination plant, with an additional capacity of 150 million litre capacity is being planned at Nemili. Soon this plant will become operational and brought to use. Through this, about 9 lakh people in Ullagaram, Puzhuthivakkam, Velachery, Madipakkam, Sholinganallur, Alandur, St.Thomas Mount, Medavakkam, Kovilambakkam,Nanmangalam, Keezhkattalai, Moovarasampet and Pallavaram will be benefitted.

The foundation stone has been laid for a desalination plant with a capacity of 400 million litre at Perur

As more and more industries are coming up in and around Greater Chennai, it has become necessary to provide drinking water supply to new industries and the growing population. To meet the future demand, steps are being taken to set up a desalination plant with a capacity of 400 million litre at Perur in East Coast Road in Chengalpattu as the biggest plant in South-East Asia. The plant will be brought to public use by December 2026.

For converting seawater into drinking water, HDPE pipes will be installed in the sea. The Dissolved Air Floatation unit and the Dual Media Filter unit have been designed in a sophisticated manner. Through these units, slags on the sea water will be removed and quality drinking water will be produced. From this plant, drinking water pipes to Perur for a length of 59 km will be installed.

About 22.67 lakh people in parts of Greater Chennai Corporation, Tambaram Corporation and 20 Panchayat Unions, close to Greater Chennai Corporation will get water supply.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens building for outpatients ward in Pernambut

Foundation stone laid for multi-purpose super speciality hospital in Vellore Pentland Hospital

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on 22.08.2023, on behalf of the Health and Family Welfare Department, declared open an outpatient wing at the Pernambut Government Hospital in Vellore District, built at a cost of Rs. 7.58 crore and two 50-bed integrated AYUSH Hospitals, one each in Theni and Tiruvannamalai, constructed at a cost of Rs.13.50 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation for a super speciality hospital in the Vellore Government Pentland Hospital complex, Vellore, to be executed at a cost of Rs. 150 crore.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, through the Health and Family Welfare Department, has been implementing various schemes like setting up new Government Hospitals, constructing Primary Health Centres, improving the infrastructure of existing hospitals and installing new medical equipment in hospitals, and introducing 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' to provide health for all and Innuyir Kappom – Nammai Kakkum - 48 Scheme, to prevent death due to road accidents.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** laid the foundation stone for a Multi-purpose super speciality hospital in Vellore - 22.08.2023.

In this way, at the Government Hospital in Vellore District, at a cost of Rs.7.58 crore, an outpatient block was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin. In this new block, general outpatients wing, children's outpatient wing, ophthalmology outpatients wing, operation theatre, post-surgery care wing for patients,

blood bank wing, maternity ward, new born children's ward, men and women in-patient wards and emergency ward. About 1,000 patients will be benefitted daily by this new facility.

Under the State action plan of the Tamil Nadu State AYUSH Group 2016-2017, permission has been granted by the National AYUSH Mission for setting up 50-bed integrated AYUSH Hospitals, one each in Theni and Tiruvannamalai Districts. The Government of Tamil Nadu also gave administrative sanction for the project.

The AYUSH Hospital at Theni is at the Theni Government Medical College Hospital Complex on a 35,198 sq.ft. area, with ground plus two floors, costing Rs. 6.75 crore and in Tiruvannamalai, it is in the Old Government Hospital complex on Chengam Road, on 29,460 sq.ft. area, with ground plus three floors at a cost of Rs. 6.75 crore. Both the integrated hospitals were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

In this AYUSH Hospital, treatment is given on the basis of Indian systems of medicine of Siddha, Yoga and naturopathy.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu also laid the foundation stone for a multi-purpose super speciality hospital in the campus of the Vellore Pentland Government Hospital. The hospital will come up with ground plus 7 floors, at a cost of Rs. 150 crore.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, as a token of giving appointment orders for the posts of typists and junior assistants on compassionate grounds to the successors of 43 employees of various Medical Departments, who died in harness, handed over the appointment orders to 6 persons.

Minorities Commission holds competitions for Kalaignar Birth Centenary

Hon'ble Chief Minister exhorts students to develop their oratorical skills

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** distributed prizes to students who won in the oratorical competitions organized in connection with the Birth Centenary Celebrations of **Muthamizharignar Kalaignar** - 23.08.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Birth Centenary Celebration of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar organized by the Tamil Nadu State Minorities Commission, at the St.Thomas College auditorium, Koyambedu, Chennai, on 23.08.2023, distributed prizes to students who won the State-Level Oratorical Competitions. The Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed cheques, books and certificates to students who won the State-level contests.

The Tamil Nadu State Minorities Commission organized the oratorical contests both in English and Tamil on 'Thalai Nimirum Tamizhagam', for students of the colleges affiliated to the Government. The contests were held for students of colleges in 38 Districts, in which over 4,000 students from all over the State participated. The contests were held to make students to know the values like art and culture and their fame exclusive to the Tamil

Language, which were usually not taught in educational institutions.

Separate contests were held in Tamil and English. At the district-level, first 3 students were given prizes of Rs. 20,000, Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 5,000. Similarly, at the State-level contests, the first 3 students were given Rs. 1,00,000, Rs.50,000 and Rs.25,000, along with certificates. A total of 228 students won prizes at the district-level contests and 6 students (both boys and girls) at the State-level contests.

At the prize distribution function held at the St.Thomas College auditorium in Koyambedu, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the cheques and certificates to 6 students, who won at the State-level contests and congratulated the winners for their performance.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K. Stalin on the occasion:

My dear students, who are dearest to me, first of all I extend my warm welcome to all of you.

Due to paucity of time, I am distributing the prizes and certificates to only a few students. For the remaining winners, the Hon'ble Minister and the organizers here will hand over the prizes.

Being with students and youth always gives me energy and enthusiasm. So I am really happy to be in the midst of students and youth at this function.

To take my slogan of 'Thalai Nimirum Tamizhagam', for the dawn of Tamil Nadu, to college students, the office-bearers of the Minorities Commission, have organized the contests successfully and announced prizes to the winners.

The young winners who have been identified by the contests are really a big gift to Tamil Nadu and the Tamil language. Because, public speaking is a gift that only some have. There have been many in Tamil Nadu who developed their own style of speaking to attract people. Even today there are such people.

You must all know the history of the Tamil country which has been cultivated through the eloquence of speech. You should take this fact to all people. Like T.M.Nair's Spurtank Road speech, your speech should be a manual for the future generations.

Everybody knows that the Dravidian Movement grew only through oratory and more of oratory. In those days, the D.M.K. meetings were called evening colleges. That much content was there in the speeches of its speakers.

The lion of Erode, the sun of Reason, spoke rationalistic ideas with great aplomb: through such competitions we must all realize how many great ideas he gave us. In a similar manner, Perarignar Perunthagai Anna taught us world history through his speech. The speeches of Dr.Kalaignar stirred the emotions of the people. I appeal to you that you should develop

My humble request to the student community is that they should know that Tamil Nadu has got a separate identity. You should all have awareness on the various aspects of Tamil culture such as Equality, brotherhood, social justice, self-respect and rationalism. You should lead Tamil society to a state of equality without any differences

such skills by taking their speeches as guidance.

Anjaanenjan Pattukottai Alagiri, Torpedo A.P. Janardhanam, Sinthanai Sirpi C.P. Chitrarasu, Mobile University Navalar Nedunchezhian, Sollin Selvar E.V.K.Sampath and Inamaana Perasiriyar, stirred our racial consciousness through speech. The list is long.

The platform to create such speakers has been successfully set up by Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Gingee Masthan, well supported by the chairman of the Minorities Commission Thiru. Peter Alphonse. On this occasion, I congratulate them for their effort.

Thiru. Peter Alphonse has done a good job in identifying young speakers. Dr.Kalaignar would have been very happy to see this. He would be the happiest man. If at all I developed the talent to speak in public, it was due to many people. But notable among them is Peter Alphonse. I used to hear his public speeches as well his speeches in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. He himself advised me many times during the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly that I should not remain quiet in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. Whether you are in the opposition or in the ruling party, you must raise some questions in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, he told me. He used to give me such advice and counsel. I recollect all this now.

Thiru. Peter Alphonse had a special place in the heart of Dr. Kalaignar. The same affection and friendliness I have for him and I am really happy for that.

Similarly, as far as Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Gingee Masthan is concerned, you all know that he has been functioning well both as Minister for Minorities Welfare as well as Minister of Non-Resident Tamils Welfare. Whenever the Dravidian Model Government comes to power in the State, it fights for the welfare of minorities and implements various schemes for them.

In the year 2007, it was the D.M.K. Government that enacted a law providing 3.5 per cent reservation exclusively for Backward Muslims.

It set up the Ulemas and Employees Welfare Board in 2009 and so far 15,327 have been included as members of the Board.

Separate hostel for Muslim girls was started during the D.M.K. Government.

As a continuation of these measures, the present Government introduced special meals for the students of the Minorities Hostel on important festivals of minorities, like Buddha Purnima, Mahavir Jayanthi, Bakrid, Ramzan and Christmas, 14 Classical Tamil Libraries at a cost of Rs.14 lakh have been set up, and exercise equipment has been provided at a cost of Rs. 5.90 lakh.

The salary ceiling for the parents of Minority students in joining the Minorities Welfare hostel has been increased from Rs. One lakh to Rs. 2 lakh from the year 2021-2022.

A special incentive of Rs.3.60 crore has been sanctioned to prevent drop out of minority students from 3rd standard to 6th standard. Rs.10 crore has been given as financial assistance to 3,987 Haj pilgrims.

The Government has been implementing various welfare schemes for the welfare of Minorities. I give the assurance on this occasion that the D.M.K. will continue to protect the rights of minorities. My humble request to the student community is that they should know that Tamil Nadu has got a separate identity. You should all have awareness on the various aspects of Tamil culture such as Equality, brotherhood, social justice, self-respect and rationalism. You should lead Tamil society to a state of equality without any differences.

Hail humanism. Avoid ideologies that spoil your thoughts. On this happy occasion, I appeal to you to take the quality of harmony to everyone. I once again thank the Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Gingee Masthan, Chairman of the Minorities Commission Thiru. Peter Alphonse and other officials for giving this opportunity and congratulate the students for their performance.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

Hon'ble Chief Minister's message to officials, teachers and children

Expansion of Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme to benefit 17 lakh Government school students

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** after inaugurating the expansion of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme to benefit 17 lakh Government school students -25.08.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin inaugurated the expansion of the Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme to all Government elementary schools in the State, to benefit 17 lakh students from first to fifth standards in 31,008 schools on 25.08.2023. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the breakfast scheme at the Panchayat Union Middle School in Thirukkuvalai in Nagapattinam District, the birth place of Dr. Kalaignar.

Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme

The Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 07.05.2022, under Rule 110, in connection with the first anniversary of the D.M.K. Government, said that it had been brought to the notice of the Government,

that the school going children in the urban and rural areas do not have morning food, as they leave for schools very early in the morning. It is either due to schools located in a far away place from their homes or due to their family circumstances. Taking this into consideration, we have conceived a scheme of providing morning breakfast to primary school students. In the first phase, the scheme will be in operation in some corporations, municipalities and far off villages. Students from the First to Fifth Standards will be provided nutritious breakfast on all school working days.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister launched the scheme at the Adhimoolam Corporation Primary School in Madurai by taking breakfast with the students.

In the first phase, Rs.33.56 crore has been allotted for implementing the scheme in 38 districts. The scheme benefits 43,681 students in 417 corporation schools, 17,427 students in 163 municipal schools, 42,826 students in 728 Taluk, panchayat union schools, 10,161 students from 237 schools far away from their homes and in hill areas. Totally 1,14,095 students are the beneficiaries. The scheme was extended on 28.02.2023 and as per the Hon'ble Chief Minister's breakfast scheme App, in 1,005 urban centres 1,12,883 children and in 963 rural centres 41,225 children are benefited.

Objectives of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme

The aims of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme are to make students attend schools without hunger, to prevent malnutrition among children, to increase the nutrition level of students, to increase enrollment of students in schools and to reduce the work burden of mothers in the morning hours.

Mechanism for Implementation of the Scheme:

Under the Scheme, in Greater Chennai Corporation, in Corporations and municipalities, the integrated kitchens are linked with the school noon meal centres.

In Village Panchayats and schools in hill areas, the scheme is implemented through the self help groups of Village panchayats.

Expansion of the Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme

The Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme has been widely welcomed and appreciated by parents, teachers and students. Due to

this, the attendance of students in schools has substantially increased. Based on statistics, the Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to expand the scheme to all Government schools in the State for students from First to Fifth Standard in phases from 2023-2024. This was announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 13.01.2023.

In continuation of this, in the budget for the year 2023-2024, Rs.500 crore was allotted to expand the scheme further to all Government schools in the State for students from the First to Fifth Standard.

Based on this, the scheme has been expanded to 31,008 schools to benefit 17 lakh students, at a cost of Rs. 404.41 crore. The expansion was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the Panchayat Union Middle School in Thirukkuvalai in Tiruvarur. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also took breakfast along with students.

Food provided in the Chief Minister's Breakfast scheme

Monday: Rava Upma / Semiya Upma / Rice Upma / Wheat Rava Upma with Vegetable Sambar; Tuesday: Rava Vegetable Khichdi / Semiya Vegetable Khichdi/ Corn Vegetable Khichdi/ Wheat Rava Khichdi with Vegetable Sambar; Wednesday: Rice Pongal / Rava Pongal with Vegetable Sambar; Thursday: Semiya Upma / Rice Upma / Rava Upma / Wheat Upma with Vegetable Sambar; Friday: Semiya Vegetable Khichdi / Chola Vegetable Khichdi/ Rava Vegetable Khichdi / Wheat Rava Khichdi along with Vegetable Sambar. This menu is followed under the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme.

Each girl or boy is supplied 50 gms of Rice/ Rava/ Wheat Rava / Semiya or Small Millets that are locally available, 15 gms of dhal required for preparing Sambar. Breakfast prepared with locally available millets should be prepared atleast for 2 days within a week.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin at the function

My warm welcome to all of you.

Today is one of the golden days in my career.

This day has become more important as it is on the Thirukkuvalai soil, from where a sun rose and spread its light throughout Tamil Nadu and also to the capital of the country. That sun is none other than our leader Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. I am really proud to inaugurate the special scheme from the school where Dr.Kalaignar had his early education.

Though I have been implementing many schemes, the breakfast scheme gives me great satisfaction. I am happier than women, who travel in no cost buses for their daily work or girl students, who are getting Rs. 1,000 per month. Because I am responsible for the happiness of many people. This feeling makes me happier.

Next month, another happy incident is to take place. You all know about it. On September 15, the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna, we are launching the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam' of giving Rs. 1,000 each to the woman head of the family. That will give me more pleasure.

This morning breakfast scheme is one of the important schemes of the Dravidian Model Government.

Last year, on the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna, I inaugurated the breakfast scheme at the Madurai Adhimoolam Corporation Primary school. I served the morning breakfast to students and also partook in the breakfast with them. This morning, I have just inaugurated the scheme at the Thirukkuvalai Panchayat Union School, where Dr.Kalaignar had his early education, and had my breakfast with students. I wanted to take my breakfast along with students. There is no other motive for keeping you hungry.

I started the scheme in Madurai. Till date, 1,14,000 children have been provided breakfast. Our objective of expanding the scheme has become a reality today, with the expansion of the scheme to 17 lakh students.

As written in the epic, Manimekalai, those who provide food to a person are those who have given life. The Dravidian Model Government is functioning with that motive.

In this Thirukkuvalai, where my grandfather, Muthuvelar, father of Muthamizharignar lived, and in this Thirukkuvalai where Dr. Kalaignar, who was a father and mother to me, was born, I, as Karunanidhi Stalin, am inaugurating this expansion… I am really proud to inaugurate the scheme not only as the Chief Minister of the State but also as the son of Dr.Kalaignar. I don't need any other credit.

Dr. Kalaignar, who in later years had inaugurated many schools and colleges, studied in this school. He would not have thought that he would become a political leader or the Chief Minister at that time. But his attachment towards the Tamil language, his writing and thinking skills gradually shaped him as the leader.

That distinction belongs to this school and the Tiruvarur School. In this village, Dr.Kalaignar was born to Muthuvelar and Anjugam Amma.

Dr. Kalaignar used to say often that his parents always told him to study, study. "But I studied only in the 'Erode' school and Kanchi College".

As there was only up to 5th standard in the Thirukkuvalai School, he continued his studies in Tiruvarur High School. You all know that Dr.Kalaignar had to encounter many problems in joining 6th standard in the school. He has mentioned it clearly in his 'Nenjukku Needhi'. He has also referred it in many of his speeches. The Tiruvarur School embraced him and ignited the political passion in him.

At the school, he started the Students Reformation Union.

As the nature of the crop is known even at the time when it sprouts, both the Thirukkuvalai and Tiruvarur Schools showed what Kalaignar would become in future.

Born in an ordinary village, in a tiny village at a time when social inequalities were high, he had his early education in the Thirukkuvalai School. As the school had classes only up to 5th Standard, he shifted to Tiruvarur for higher studies. Due to his unstinted hard work, he touched many peaks of victory. He told us that the place for us in history should not come due to concessions but we should get it by fighting. Why, even the place on the Marina, where he reposes, he got only after a legal fight.

For the present generation of students, Dr. Kalaignar is not a mere picture but a lesson

and guide. That is the reason why I expanded the breakfast scheme from his school to all schools in the State.

Thanthai Periyar started Dravidar Kazhagam with the motive that the poor, downtrodden and oppressed students should not be denied education at any cost. For that reason, the social justice principle was framed and reservation on the basis of caste was provided. Both Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna thought that the poverty and caste should not be a hindrance to education.

I, who follow the footsteps of those leaders, am now occupying the position from where I could fulfill their dreams. I will continue to fulfill it. It was the Justice Party, the parent organization of the Dravidian Movement, led by Sir Pitti Theagarayar that first initiated the scheme.

When he was the Chairman of the Chennai Corporation, he inaugurated the noon meal scheme for school students in the year 1922 from Thousand Lights, from where I contested the Assembly election for the first time.

The noon meal scheme was started in the year 1955 by the then Chief Minister Perunthalaivar Kamarajar. N.D. Sunderavadivelu was the Director of School Education at that time. It was he who initiated the entire scheme. He implemented the scheme despite severe opposition from his subordinates. Sunderavadivelu was an ardent follower of Thanthai Periyar.

This scheme was continued during the DMK Government also. To fine tune the scheme, Dr.Kalaignar introduced the Additional Nutrition scheme in 1971. He introduced the scheme as the biggest nutrition providing scheme to children and women. During that period there was one famous 'Baby Rotti' and Dr.Kalaignar provided that 'Baby Rotti' to children.

In 1975, the then Chief Minister, Dr.Kalaignar introduced an integrated nutrition scheme throughout the State, completely funded by the State Government. It was expanded by Dr. M.G.R., who allotted more funds and set up more nutrition centres. When Dr.Kalaignar returned to power in 1989, he introduced a supply of eggs in noon meals. It was gradually increased to 5 days a week by Dr.Kalaignar. Those who did not consume egg were given banana and later they were given chickpeas, green gram and boiled potato. During the birth anniversaries of important leaders, sweet pongal was given.

During the period when Jayalalithaa Ammaiyar was Chief Minister, she ordered mixed rice.

All these noon meal schemes started from the Justice Party Government in 1921 and continue to 2021.

At this juncture, I attended a function at the Girls Higher Secondary School in Ashok Nagar. At that time, during the interaction with girl students, many said that they had not taken their breakfast. One girl said that cooking was not done in her house. Another girl said that her mother had asked her to take the noon meal in the school. Another student said that she only tea in the morning. Taking all these into consideration, I directed the officials to plan a breakfast scheme for students.

Officials cited financial constraints for implementing the scheme. I told them that there was no other important scheme than this and it should be implemented at the earliest. If a man is to work properly throughout the day, then his stomach should be full.

We need food atleast 3 times a day. That too breakfast is important. Only then can one work. Breakfast is more important. Children with an empty stomach cannot concentrate on their studies. This is one side.

On the other side, a field survey in corporation areas revealed that many children are found to be anaemic. If we provide 50 grams of food to a child, then it will get additional nutrition. That is the reason, we are eager and anxious to implement this scheme.

I felt that we should not teach children when they are hungry. My thinking resulted in expanding the morning breakfast scheme to 17 lakh students, studying in 31,000 Government schools and funding for this scheme has been allotted. For this purpose, the Government has allotted funds.

As the children are our future hope, I would like the fund allotment to be treated as our investment for our future. As the fund is invested for the development of children's knowledge, it will definitely result in bringing profit to the nation. That is a fact.

Tamil Nadu is the number one State in the country in implementing new schemes. Of the schemes, the Breakfast scheme is one of the important schemes. What are the objectives of this scheme?

- Students should attend the schools without hunger;
- the children should not be affected by mal-nutrition;
- anaemia should be removed;
- student attendance should increase and
- the burden of women going for work should decrease. Our goal is to meet these 5 objectives. We will achieve the

goal fully. There is no doubt about it.

If the hunger is removed then the students will study with full involvement. They will learn the lessons taught in school properly. They will come to school enthusiastically. The percentage of students attending school will increase. They will all become skilled people. Along with their studies, they will also excel in sports and artistic activities and shine in those activities. So the scheme has many benefits.

About 10 lakh children were tested for nutrition level and of them about 92,000 children are nutritionally deficient. They were all given special nutritious food. Due to that, there has been substantial improvement in the nutrition level of about 62,000 children.

Some of the children were brought to the Fort to meet me. I saw those children. The Government's development depends on their welfare. If you ask me for whose welfare this Government exists, then my answer is that it is for those who say that they have nobody to support them.

In those days, only those belonging to families of kings were allowed to practice archery. After seeing the skill in archery of a hunter, Dronachariar demanded his thumb as his fee. There were such teachers in those days. But today where social justice is prevailing, if somebody asks for a thumb then they will be punished, warned the king who rose in our land, Dr.Kalaignar. The present Government, which is ruling the Government on the path laid by Periyar-Anna -Kalaignar, is providing knowledge to people of all communities. Even in this age, there are some 'Dronachariars' who try to put hurdles in the form of National Education Policy and NEET. In those days, Ekalaivan offered his thumb. But today it is Kalaignar's period, not the era of Dronacharya but that of Ekalaivan.

All should get all things. The Dravidian code of 'Everyone should get everything' is being implemented in the State. On this occasion, as a Chief Minister, I would like to place a demand to Government officials, teachers and cooking assistants. The Government has started this scheme with a

motherly touch. You should implement the scheme with the same feeling. You show more concern for the children and treat them as if they are your own children. I am confident that you would definitely do that.

My dear children, my request to you as a member of your family is this. We are providing food in the morning and afternoon. Do not worry about anything. Study, study. That is my only request. Education is the only wealth that cannot be stolen. You accumulate that wealth. The present Government will take care of your other demands and worries.

Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin is here to take care of you. You concentrate on your studies. Education will upgrade your position.

Intellectuals from Tamil Nadu have created records by sending a spacecraft to probe the moon. In a similar manner you should also do something that will be appreciated world over. You should all become achievers. Along with your parents, I will feel proud to see you as achievers. I am confident that you will all live up to my expectations. With that confidence, I take leave of you.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

‘We will make known the magnificent sacrifices of V.O.C. to the whole of India’

He operated ships challenging the supremacy of the British and was made to pull an oil press in prison as punishment for participating in the freedom struggle; such is the poignant life story of V.O.Chidambaranar.

Apart from making unparalleled sacrifices, he was also an advocate, a writer, translator and orator. He was a pioneer in the trade union movement. He was a Tamil scholar and published Tholkappiyam and Thirukkural.

With a view to make known all the dimensions of such a great personality to all, the Dravidian Model Government released V.O.C’s writings, including his V.O.C. Collected Works and his Thirukkural Commentary, on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary celebrations.

The Government will take more steps to make his sacrifices and scholarship known throughout India.

-Social media post of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on the birth anniversary of freedom fighter, V.O.Chidambaranar - 05.09.2023.

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Telangana Government praises the initiative of the Government of Tamil Nadu

'Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme shows the way to the whole of India'

✸ The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing various schemes for Government school students. Of these, the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme has made the entire country look at Tamil Nadu.

✸ The Breakfast Scheme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin on September 15, 2022. In the first phase, the scheme was implemented in 1,543 Government schools for 1.14 lakh students. In the next phase, the Hon'ble Chief Minister extended the scheme on August 25 this year, to all the 31,008 Government primary schools in Tamil Nadu for 18 lakh students studying from the first to fifth standard.

✸ The scheme received good appreciation from all over India. Following this, the Government of Telangana showed interest in implementing the scheme in its State. For this, the officials of the Telangana State Government got in touch with their counterparts in Tamil Nadu and expressed their desire to visit Tamil Nadu, to acquaint themselves with the scheme. Senior officials of the Government of Telangana reached Chennai on August 30, 2023 and visited the central kitchen and some schools, on August 31, 2023.

✸ First, they visited the Central Kitchen, functioning at the Chennai Corporation School in Royapuram. They interacted with the local officials to know how the groceries were received, how the workers were working, how they prepared quality food, how the quality of the food was tested, transportation of cooked food to schools and weekly menu schedule.

✸ The Telangana Government officials, who started their work at 7 am in Royapuram central kitchen left from there at 8 am for the Chennai Corporation Urdu Elementary School on the Arathoon Road and saw how the food was served for the students. They also interacted with the students and learnt of their reactions.

✸ After visiting the Urdu School, they visited the Panchayat Union Middle School at Azhinchivakkam in Tiruvallur District. They apprised themselves with the details of the successful implementation of the scheme in a rural area, the challenges the Tamil Nadu officials faced and the ways by which they surmounted them, by conversing with the Government of Tamil Nadu officials, teachers and students.

✸ The Telangana Government officials, who were fully satisfied with the implementation of the scheme, expressed their appreciation to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurates tech centre of United Parcel Service, at Porur

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** after inaugurating Technology Centre of United Parcel Service (UPS)— 28.08.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, on behalf of the Department of the Industry, Investment Promotion and Commerce, on 28.08.2023, inaugurated the Technology Centre of United Parcel Service (UPS), a global leader in freight transportation and supply chain management, with headquarters in the United States, at Porur. This is the first centre in the country which will provide high-tech employment to more than 400 people. Also, the Hon’ble Chief Minister, under his dream scheme ‘Naan Mudhalvan’, gave permission letters to the selected students to get high technical employment training (Internship) at the centre.

Tamil Nadu is the leading state in many economic indices across India. In order to maintain this status and to attract large amounts of investments and create a large number of jobs for the youth of Tamil Nadu and raise their standard of living and ensure widespread development in the State, the Department of Industry, Investment Promotion and Commerce is continuously carrying out various activities.

As a result of massive reforms in business practices/rules and ease of obtaining permits, Tamil Nadu has improved significantly from 14th place to 3rd place in the ranking of ease of doing business published by the Union Government. Further, sector-wise industrial parks with world-class infrastructural facilities have been set up and the Government of Tamil Nadu has issued sector-specific policies to encourage investments.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, in order to achieve the target of achieving one Trillion US Dollar economy by 2030 has been holding investor conferences not only domestically but also abroad, since this Government assumed responsibility. Till date, an investment worth Rs.2,97,196 crore has been achieved; this will facilitate employment to 4,15,282 persons. 241 investments have been confirmed.

As the next step in an effort to attract investments, the Government of Tamil Nadu is conducting a Global Investors Meet in Chennai on January 7 and 8, 2024 in an excellent manner and is taking steps to attract large amounts of investments.

United Parcel Services

The US-based United Parcel Services Company (UPS) is a leading global logistics company providing employment to more than 5 lakh people by transporting goods to more than 220 countries. The company is one among the Fortune 500 companies. It continues to invest in advancing technology and for the first time in India, the UPS Technology Centre, has set up its unit at the RMZ Paramount complex in Porur, Chennai and the same was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. On the occasion, he also gave letters to selected students under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' program for training at the Centre.

This company plans to train youth, especially in rural areas, through its 400 high tech professionals in Industrial Engineering, Software, Research and Development and Artificial Intelligence.

The company said that while many cities in India were considered for setting up this technology centre, Chennai was chosen because it felt that it was an elegant location, similar to its headquarters in the United States.

Over the past few years, Research and Development related centres and Global Capability Centres (GCCs) have been established in Tamil Nadu in large numbers. In the last two years, more than 30 Global Competence Centres have been established in Tamil Nadu. These will go a long way in increasing Tamil Nadu's competitiveness globally.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on the occasion :

My warm regards to all of you.

Your company, United Parcel Services, is a global Fortune 500 company and a global leader in freight forwarding and supply chain management. It is a matter of pride for Tamil Nadu, our Government and myself, to open a technology centre of such a world-renowned company in India, especially in Porur, Chennai.

For this, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to your company, company owner, top executives, and officers. I see the coming here of good companies like you as a sign of good governance in Tamil Nadu. I assure you that we will always keep the trust you have placed in us.

Tamil Nadu has been the leading State in various rankings as the second largest economy in India. We not only want to maintain this status, but to grow it further. We are making all efforts to attract massive investments. Our Government is continuously taking various initiatives to take the State's economy on a growth path by creating a large number of employment opportunities for the youth of Tamil Nadu.

As a part of that, you will have heard from the press and media what I have spoken last week at a consultation meeting with economists.

In the last two years, various multinational companies have made investments in Tamil Nadu for their new and expansion projects. To attract investments, we are setting up sector-specific industrial parks with world-class infrastructural facilities. We are issuing sector-specific policy releases to encourage investments in emerging sectors.

In this regard, we also devised plans to promote integrated, reliable, cost-effective and sustainable freight transport in the State.

Tamil Nadu Freight Transport Policy and Integrated Freight Transport Plan, 2023 was released by me last March.

A multi-terminal transport park is to be set up at Mappedu village in Tiruvallur district near Chennai for the freight sector. A multi-terminal freight park will also be set up in the industrial district of Coimbatore.

With the rapid development of technology globally, it is necessary for our industry to make appropriate changes and travel at the same pace. Keeping this in mind, I released the Tamil Nadu Research and Development Policy last year.

Our Government is very concerned about preparing our industries and the youth for the fourth generation industry development (Industry 4.0). You all know that my dream project 'Naan Mudhalvan' is in progress to provide skill training to the poor and needy students of Tamil Nadu in emerging new technologies and to increase their chances of getting future jobs.

As a part of this, the Government of Tamil Nadu, Tata Technologies, in collaboration with international companies, has upgraded 71 Government Industrial Training Institutes (Government ITIs) as Technology Centres.

The Government is planning to accelerate industrial innovation, start-up entrepreneurship and boost high-tech development in Tamil Nadu. Our Government is also taking various initiatives to train our youth, professionals and young entrepreneurs in cutting-edge and advanced technologies.

Notably, three new companies have been launched in association with the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

In association with French multinational Dassault Systems, Tamil Nadu centre of excellence for advanced manufacturing, Tamil Nadu.

Efficient & Advanced Manufacturing Centre in association with German multinational Siemens and with the American multinational company G. E. Aviation, Tamil Nadu Centre of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing, have been set up.

World-class Industrial Innovation Centres have been set up at SIPCOT Industrial Parks in Sriperumbudur and Hosur. I request all the companies to take advantage of this opportunity to improve their business development.

Over the past few years, we have seen the rise of Global Capability Centres (GCC) for research and development. As for Tamil Nadu, since 2021 more than 30 GCCs have established their new companies or expansion plans.

It is very gratifying to see that high quality employment has been created for 47,000 people through these centres. In the next 3 or 4 years, I expect the number of GCCs to increase manifold in the State.

According to a recent Cushman & Wakefield report, due to factors such as availability of engineering graduates, the ease of doing business and living and good governance, Coimbatore has been ranked in the top tier II cities for GCCs in India. In that regard, I am happy that UPS, a global leader in freight transport and supply chain management, has inaugurated a Technology Centre in Porur, Chennai, with a plan to train and hire more than 400 technicians, especially the rural youth.

I also got the opportunity to give letters to select students under my dream programme 'Naan Mudhalvan' to get a high tech internship at this centre, which has given me great joy.

Studies show that even after the Corona crisis, the economic growth of Tamil Nadu is very steady and rising. This was published by 'The Hindu' yesterday.

Many of you have read the message. Under the guidance of the Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, the State Economic and Statistics Department has conducted surveys. The Hindu daily published the news based on the statistics available at that time.

We came to power during the crisis period of Corona. Corona caused not only a medical crisis but also a financial crisis. But we beat Corona as we overcame the financial crisis.

Economic growth in the state fluctuated at 5.80 percent from the 2011-2012 financial year to the pre-Corona period. As per current available information, based on constant prices the gross domestic product of Tamil Nadu in the financial year 2022-2023 is Rs. 14,53,321 crore. It is 8.19 percent growth rate.

In 2021–2022, Maharashtra ranked first and Tamil Nadu ranked second in state GDP at current prices.

It is mentioned in this report that while the all-India inflation was 9.31 percent and 8.82 percent in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, the inflation index of Tamil Nadu has decreased to 7.92 percent in 2021-2022 and 5.97 percent in 2022-2023. It's not just a statistic; this is a certificate of merit for this Government!

I'm talking about turning it into a $1 trillion economy by 2030. 'The Hindu' newspaper has confirmed that we can reach this by 2034. I am delighted to share this good news with you.

I cordially invite you to attend the Global Investors Meet to be held in January 2024.

I conclude my speech by once again wishing you success in your business endeavours .

Hon'ble Chief Minister awards Rs. 30 lakh to Chess Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** handed over a high incentive to Chess Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa - 30.08.2023

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at his camp office on 30.08.2023, handed over a cheque for Rs.30 lakh and a memento to Praggnanandhaa, who won second place in the FIDE World Chess Championship Tournament held at Azerbaijan recently, to encourage him for his creditable performance.

To make Tamil Nadu the best State in sports in the country and to make sports persons in the State participate and win national and international tournaments, the State Government has been taking various measures. It recently conducted the 44th Chess Olympiad to the appreciation of all. It created Tamil Nadu Champions Trust to develop the most modern sports infrastructure in the State and to receive donations from big companies. It has been implementing various schemes to improve the infrastructure to host international tournaments in the State.

International Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa started playing chess from the age of 3 and

participated in major tournaments from the age of 5. He got the distinction in winning the International Master Title at a young age. In the year 2013, he won the World Championship under 8 years of age and in 2015, World Championship for under 10. He won the Grandmaster title at the age of 12, the youngest player to get the title during that period and at the age of 16, he created a record by defeating the former world champion.

Praggnanandhaa has the achievement of making it to the finals of the World Chess Championship from India, at a young age. He is the second Indian Grandmaster to have been selected for the Candidates Tournament. Praggnanandhaa secured a bronze medal for the Indian team at the 2022 FIDE Olympiad.

At the recent FIDE World Chess Championship tournament held in Azerbaijan, he played extremely well and won second place. The Hon'ble Chief Minister immediately contacted him and congratulated him for winning the second place. On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, a grand reception was accorded to him at the Chennai Airport when he arrived from Azerbaijan.

To felicitate Praggnanandhaa for his achievements in chess tournaments and to honour him, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin handed over a cheque for Rs. 30 lakh as incentive and a memento.

News in Picture

Review meeting on construction of rain water drains

A review meeting was chaired by the Chief Secretary Thiru. Shiv Das Meena I.A.S., regarding flood prevention measures, construction of rainwater drainage works in suburban areas of Chennai to face North-East Monsoon, held at Secretariat, Chennai on 02.09.2023.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inspects drainage works in Kolathur, lays foundation stone for new projects

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at Kolathur Assembly Constituency on 30.08.2023, inspected and reviewed the security framework, set up at a cost of Rs. 15 lakh, around the transformers of the Tamil Nadu Power Generation and Distribution Corporation, and construction of integrated rain water drainage, at a cost of Rs. 18.40 crore. The Hon’ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for 5 sponge parks, to be set up by the Chennai Corporation, at a cost of Rs. 1.09 crore and for setting up closed and open waterways on the Thanikachalam Nagar Canal, at a cost of Rs.91.36 crore, on behalf of the Irrigation and Water Resources Department and construction of an Administrative Office building for the Regional Assistant Commissioner of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, at a cost of Rs. 2.50 crore.

Review of the security framework around TNEB transformers

Under the ‘Namakku Naame’ scheme, on behalf of the Greater Chennai Corporation, at a cost of Rs.15 lakh security frameworks around the transformers have been set up, one each in S.R.P Koil North Main Road, South Main Road and Jawahar Nagar First Main Road, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Power Generation and Power Distribution Corporation. The Hon’ble Chief Minister inspected the frameworks, set up around the transformer on the S.R.P.Koil North Main Road.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inspected the Integrated Rain Water Drainage works — 30.08.2023.

Inspection and review of rainwater drainage works

The Hon’ble Chief Minister inspected the integrated rain water drainage works, near the Thiru.Vi.Ka.Nagar bus stand, in the Kolathur Constituency, carried out with financial assistance of the Asian Development Bank. The work for

1,110 metre long drainage works on the Pallavan Salai for the Periyar Nagar, Jawahar Nagar and G.K.M Colony areas, at a cost of Rs.15.40 crore, for the S.R.P.Koil (North), from the Ramamurthi Colony to Pallavan Road for a length of 175 metres at a cost of Rs. 1.25 crore and from Andal Avenue to Pallava Road, for a length of 465 metres at a cost of Rs. 1.75 crore. Totally, rain water drainage works, for a length of 1,750 metres, at a total cost of Rs.18.40 crore were reviewed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Foundation stone for 5 rain water sponge parks, on behalf of the Greater Chennai Corporation

At V.V.Nagar 2nd Street Park, at a cost of Rs. 15 lakh, Poompuhar Nagar 4th Street Park at a cost of Rs. 26 lakh, Periyar Nagar 29th Street Park, at a cost of Rs. 26 lakh, at the Jawahar Nagar 5th Main Road Park, at a cost of Rs. 28 lakh, at Selvi nagar 5th Street Playground at a cost of Rs. 14 lakh. The Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for setting up rain water sponge parks in 4 parks and a playground at a total cost of Rs.1.9 crore. Apart from the sponge parks, works for trees, grass lawns, compound walls, play instruments for children, footpaths, seats, lighting arrangements, CCTV Cameras, security room would be undertaken.

Visit to Anitha Achievers Academy near Kolathur MLA's office

The Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the Anitha Achievers Academy, near the Kolathur MLA's office, where students are taught TALLY and women are trained in sewing.

Inspection of Thamaraikulam Park on Haridas Road in Kolathur

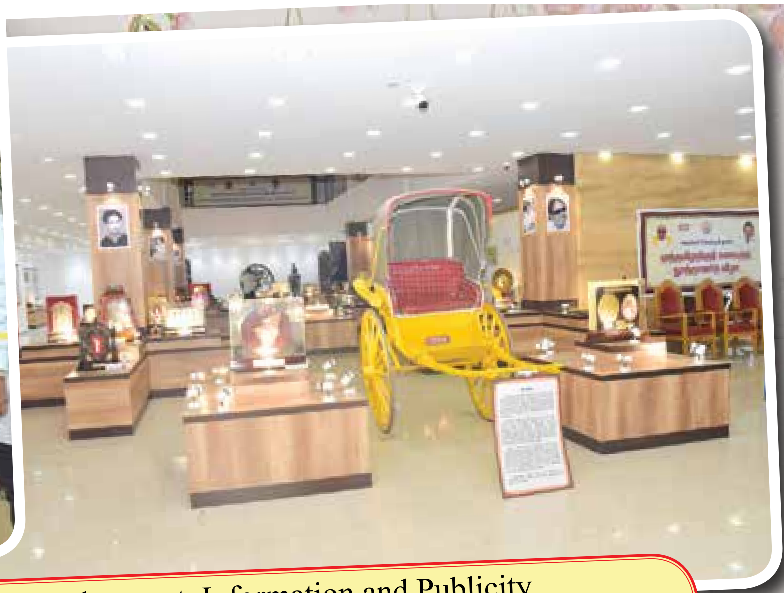
The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the Chennai Corporation's Thamaraikulam Park on the Haridas Road in Kolathur and interacted with those who were on their walking exercise at the park.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu lays foundation stone for open and closed waterway works on Thanikachalam Nagar canal and for administrative building for the Assistant Commissioner's Office of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department

The Hon'ble Chief Minister laid foundation stone for the open and closed waterway works, at a cost of Rs. 91.36 crore, on the Thanikachalam Nagar Canal situated on the Chennai-Madhavaram, Ayanavaram Taluks, on behalf of the Water Resources Department and for an administrative office building for the Office of the Assistant Commissioner of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, at the Nermai Nagar, Kolathur at an area of 758.10 sq.ft., at a cost of Rs.2.50 crore.

News in Pictures

Exhibition on mementos presented to Kalaignar and hand-drawn rickshaws that he banned

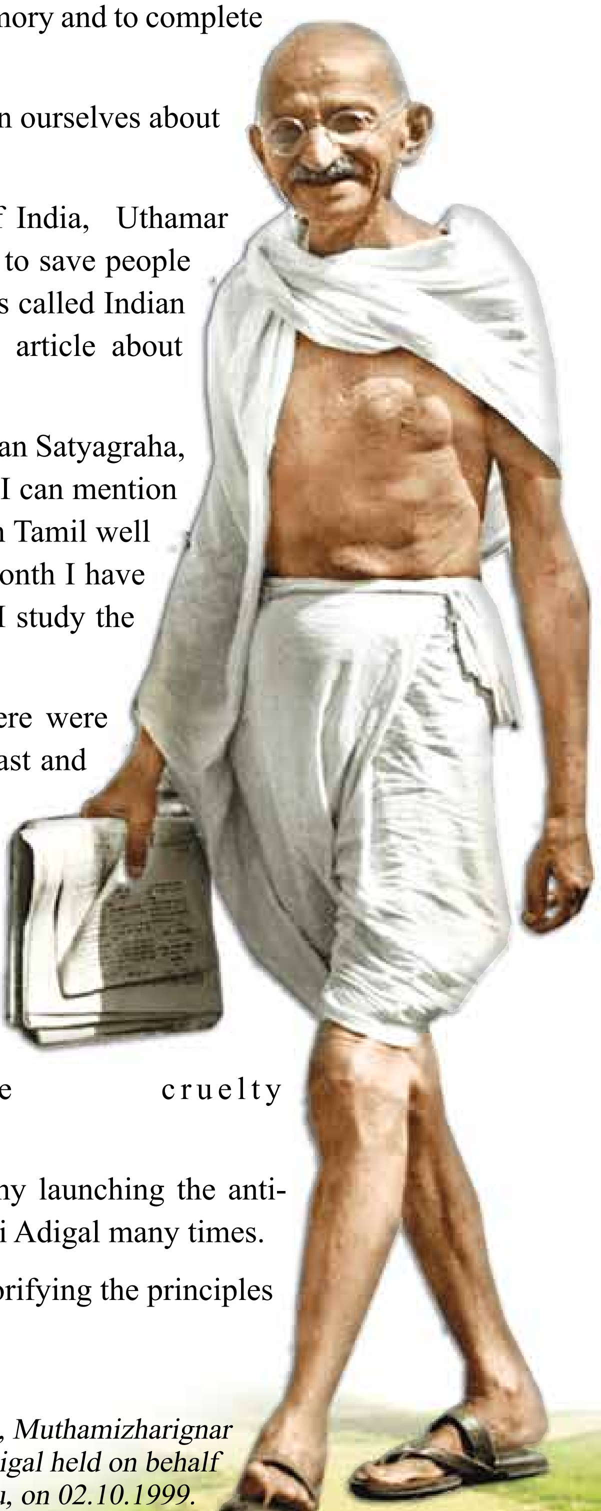


The Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan inaugurated, a special exhibition conducted by the Department of Museums, on mementos presented to Kalaignar and hand-drawn rickshaws that he banned, on occasion of the birth centenary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, at the Contemporary Art Gallery of the Government Museum, Egmore, Chennai on 05.09.2023.

Review meeting on the functioning of the Information and Public Relations Department

The Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan presided over a review meeting on the activities of the Information and Public Relations Department, at the Secretariat, Chennai on 05.09.2023. The Secretary of the Tamil Development and Information Department Dr.R. Selvaraj, I.A.S., the Director of Information and Public Relations Thiru. D. Mohan, I.A.S., and other Government officials were present.

An Epitome of Sacrifice



As the birth anniversary celebrations of Uthamar Gandhi Adigal, who has left us but is forever etched in our hearts as the pinnacle of peace, an ocean of patience and an epitome of sacrifice, this function is being held to honour his memory and to complete the tasks he has left for us.

It is my wish that this event should make us question ourselves about the extent to which we are following his ideals.

Before he raised the flag for the independence of India, Uthamar Gandhi Adigal had led a great struggle in South Africa to save people from apartheid. A newspaper he ran in South Africa was called Indian Opinion. On 05.06.1909, Mahatma Gandhi wrote an article about Tamils in that publication.

He mentioned in that article that “In the South African Satyagraha, there is no equivalent to the contribution of the Tamils, I can mention no other Indian in this regard. That is why I like to learn Tamil well and have close contact with Tamils. For the past one month I have been learning Tamil with great care. The more deeply I study the language, the more I feel its beauty”.

“Tamil is a very elegant and sweet language. There were great thinkers, and geniuses among the Tamils in the past and now too, there are plenty of them”.

This is the important thing we should remember. To establish unity across the whole of India, those outside the Madras Presidency (that was the earlier name), that is, even those outside Tamil Nadu should also learn the Tamil language with interest.

Mahatma Gandhi's great wish was to remove the cruelty of untouchability.

Untouchability is a terrible lie. “The purpose of my launching the anti-untouchability movement is clear” said Uthamar Gandhi Adigal many times.

This Government is a Government that has been glorifying the principles of Mahatma Gandhi.

- Speech of the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, at the 131st birth anniversary of Annal Gandhi Adigal held on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, on 02.10.1999.

October 30:
Birth anniversary of Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar

'Long live the fame of Pasumpon Thirumaganar'

- The word 'Pasumpon' does not refer to the birthplace of Thevar! The word 'Pasumpon' refers to Thevar's heart. We are celebrating the centenary of Thevar Thirumaganar, who possessed such a heart.
- Without taking this to be a function organized by a particular party, the ruling party, all of you are showing your love, affection and regard for Thevar Thirumaganar and taking part in this centenary celebration though it has not been possible for those not in the ruling party and those belonging to various parties to come together to organize it.
- I would like to tell you what activities have been conducted by the Government of Tamil Nadu on the occasion of this festival.
- Three colleges named after Pasumpon Thevar Thirumaganar have been established in Melaneelithanallur in Nellai District, Kamuthi in Ramanathapuram District and Usilampatti in Madurai District.
- To commemorate the fact that Thevar was connected with the trade union near Andalpuram in Madurai, and when the workers were subjected to repression, he fought for their freedom and was arrested near Andalpuram in Madurai during the protest, it was I who named the flyover near Andalpuram in Madurai as 'Muthuramalinga Thevar' Bridge.
- At Karaikudi Alagappa University, a foundation has been created in the name of Thevar Thirumaganar with an investment of Rs. 25 lakh, to help students.
- On the occasion of the birth centenary celebrations, Pasumpon Thevar's house has been renovated at a cost of Rs.10.10 lakh.
- A centenary celebration arch has been constructed at a cost of Rs.9.20 lakh.
- A photo gallery has been constructed at a cost of Rs.9 lakh.
- An 'Anaiya Vilakku' has been set up near his memorial at a cost of Rs.3.20 lakh.
- A library building has been built at a cost of Rs.4 lakh.
- A hall for tonsuring services has been constructed at a cost of Rs.5 lakh.
- Water facilities and separate toilets for men and women have been established at a cost of Rs.9 lakh.

- A hall has been built to keep the 'Paalkudam' (pitchers of milk) brought by the people at a cost of Rs.5 lakh.
- Mulaippari Mandapam has been constructed at a cost of Rs.5 lakh.
- All this has been done on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu for the convenience of those coming to this function and to the memorial.
- A road of 5 km has been constructed from Kamuthi Mudukulathur road to Pasumpon through Maruthanganallur village.
- An alternative road has been constructed for a distance of 2.5 km from Pasumpon village to Kamudi.
- The stone road around Pasumpon Thevar Thirumaganar memorial has been converted into a tar road at a cost of Rs. 2.20 lakh.
- New residences with all basic facilities have been constructed for 73 Adi Dravidar people who were residing in front of the memorial, at a cost of Rs.41.70 lakh.
- In the newly constructed Adi Dravidar houses in Pasumpon Village, various works have been undertaken at a cost of Rs.2.05 crore on the occasion of this centenary celebration. With this, I take leave of you. Long live the glory of Thevar.

- A speech delivered by the then Chief Minister, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar in the birth centenary celebration of Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar at Pasumpon on 30.10.2007.

October 01: Birth anniversary of Nadigar Thilagam Sivaji Ganesan

'My dearest friend'

My friendship with Sivaji and my love for him was not just that we met, interacted and dined together from a single leaf, his mother was like my mother to me, and my mother was like his mother to him. That is how close we were.

Even though the political leaders we chose to follow were different, even though the political ideologies we subscribed to were different, we were one at heart.

I had rendered a poem from Purananooru in simple prose. It was my dearest friend Sivaji Ganesan who brought it to life and made it famous in the dramatic stage.

The poetic prose rendering of mine was rendered beautifully and preserved (for posterity) by my dearest companion and friend who lives as Tamil, as the spoken Tamil word, and as the actor who brought characters to life (by his performances). He has become one with me and lives in my heart to this day.

- Speech of the Muthamizharignar Kalaignar delivered at the Nadigar Thilagam Sivaji Ganesan statue unveiling ceremony on 21.07.2006.

Essay

Literary Translations and Tamil

S. Devadas

Translation becomes necessary in a bilingual environment, not to mention its need in the Indian environment where 24 languages are spoken. It is based on the necessity of daily life. When it is the main aspect of transactions based on tradition, the role of a translator becomes as essential as that of writing. It facilitates understanding and harmony among people who speak different languages and belong to different cultures.

The great writer and translator Thiru. K.N. Subramaniam while translating the French author Andre Gide's novel ‘Strait is the Gate’ Tamil, gives a unique reason for it.

Structure and style are of great importance in the world of the French novel. This novel ‘Strait is the Gate’ is very good in structure and style. He has given us a simple love story with many angles. This has become a novel comparable to the novels of geniuses such as author Stendhal, Balzac, Flaubert, etc. Tamils are fortunate to have a Tamil translation of the work.

He also mentions that ‘Strait is the Gate’ breaks every rule mentioned in the grammar of a novel formulated by Pandits. Thus, one can say that Thiru. K.N. Subramaniam has done the translation because of his concern that Tamil novels should also fall in line with the growth and development of the genre of novel writing,

G.U. Pope 180 years ago, who worked for 8 years in Sawyerpuram in Tamil Nadu to propagate Christianity and later became a professor of Tamil and Telugu at Oxford University, translated Thirukkural, Thiruvasakam, Naladiyar, Purananooru and Manimekalai into English. He is proud to be a student of Tamil. When referring to Thiruvalluvar he says

that "he is the poet of universal humanity". He talks about the influence of Christian ideas in Thirukkural.

He was eclectic and absorbed the best ideas. There were Christian influences in the neighbourhood. Many passages have retained the same sense. Among his sources of inspiration are Christian scriptures.

Two thousand years ago, Saint Thomas operated in the Santhome area. With his activities in mind, Pope addresses interactions with the Christians as an influence on Thirukkural. Also, as Thirukkural is a universal book, it is a book that Christians can claim. To underline this, he speaks of Thiruvalluvar as eclectic.

Translating the Thirukkural into English in the twenty-first century, Gopalkrishna Gandhi bases his translation on G.U.Pope's translation. He explains that the Pope's English from 200 years ago is a bit rough, so he has translated it into today's English.

Two of the translators of Silapathikaram into English have to be discussed. R.S. Pillai's English translation has been published by Thanjavur Tamil University. A translation of Indian English poet R. Parthasarathy (The Story of Anklet) has been published by Penguin. R.S. Pillai has translated the ancient Tamil work in an old English style. R. Parthasarathy has translated it into present-day English in poetic prose. Being a poet, he retains the flow and intensity of the epic. He has given a long introduction to the background of the 'Aham' and 'Puram' traditions of Tamil so that people from other cultures can understand. Thus, R. Parthasarathy's translation engages the reader, While R.S. Pillai's translation, though it is done right and is without issues, makes it difficult for the reader to engage.

Therefore, points of discussion centre on issues like, need of translations for each generation, necessity of multiple translations for a single text, the right approach to translating an ancient text, and the necessity of translations in the first place.

Evidences:

1. Strait is the Gate/Andre Gide/In Tamil: K.N. Subramaniam/Samuthayam Publications, 1986.
2. A compendium of Thirukkural Translations in English/Vol I/CICT.Chennai, 2010.
3. Cilappathikaram/Tr R.S Pillai/ Thanjavur Tamil University.
4. The Story of Anklet/Tr R. Parthasarathy/ Penguin

– From the book "Ilakkiya Malar 2023" ....

Beneficiaries of schemes for the differently-abled give their gratitude to Hon’ble Chief Minister

“**O**ur sincere thanks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for making Government schemes reach differently-abled persons at their residences”.

"As the Minister of this department, I make the request that a new chapter, which no Government has created so far, should be created in the life of differently-abled persons. This department works to uplift differently-abled persons. The development and happiness of such marginalized people are included in the Dravidian model of development which aims at the development of all people. All the demands of the differently-abled persons should be fulfilled. In their happiness lies my happiness and the happiness of this Government.”

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin

To ensure the welfare of differently-abled persons, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar created a separate department for their well-being for the first time in India. He also introduced the term "Differently-abled persons" so that they are addressed with due respect. To improve the lives of differently-abled persons, the Government of Tamil Nadu, along with paying more attention to their education and employment, has also been implementing various programs for them to live with self-respect and equal rights in society.

Following the path of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. M.K. Stalin is also working for the welfare of differently-abled persons now. For example, for providing the best services to differently-abled persons, Tamil Nadu was selected as the best state nationally in services to the differently-abled in 2021.

Based on the fact that various schemes are currently being implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the welfare of the differently-abled persons, now in Salem district, for the differently-abled persons to avail themselves of the benefits of those welfare schemes, an integrated medical camp was conducted in all the Panchayat Unions in the district and the Salem Municipal Corporation area. The Government officials concerned went to the

residences of the differently-abled persons and received petitions, got to know their needs and took action on the eligible petitions on the same day. This became very popular among the differently-abled persons in the Salem district.

Regarding the special camp conducted for the differently-abled persons, the District Collector said:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been implementing several schemes for the welfare of differently-abled persons. Especially, the monthly pension of differently-abled persons has been increased from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,500 from 01.01.2023. The Government of Tamil Nadu is taking all the necessary measures to enable differently-abled persons to live their lives self-reliantly.

Salem district has been selected as the best district in India for providing rehabilitation to differently-abled persons.

Tamil Nadu has been awarded the first place for providing excellent service to differently-abled persons in India and the Government of Tamil Nadu was awarded by the Hon'ble President of India on 03.12.2021, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Also, the Salem district has been adjudged the best district in providing rehabilitation to differently-abled persons.

In this way, all types of differently-abled persons in Salem district will be directly visited by Government officials to facilitate the provision of identity cards to receive the benefits of welfare schemes and also special camps will be held to facilitate the differently-abled persons to avail themselves, at one place, of the benefits of the welfare schemes of various departments including the Revenue department, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department, Education department, District Industries Centre, Magalir Thittam, etc.

In particular, in Salem district, in the integrated medical camp of the Government welfare scheme held for 21 days from 08.02.2023 to 28.02.2023, petitions of 4,174 differently-abled persons who applied for identity cards were processed by the revenue department and the health department at the point of submission of the petitions, uploaded into the computer and immediately the identity cards with the medical certificates for differently-abled persons were provided to them.

Also, a total of 16,183 petitions have been received in this camp for differently-abled persons with requests regarding bank loans to start businesses, maintenance allowance, family cards, voter identity cards, house site pattas, Aadhaar identity cards, educational assistance and assistive equipment. These petitions have been handed over to the officials concerned for immediate action.

Apart from this, so far 69,568 differently-abled persons have been issued identity cards in Salem district. Specifically, in the current financial year, 11,909 differently-abled persons have been given maintenance allowance worth Rs.22.75 crore, 1,205 differently-abled persons have been given educational allowance worth Rs.44.25 lakh, 680 beneficiaries have been given subsidies for special schools and feeding worth Rs.1.61 crore and 377 beneficiaries have been

given cooperative bank loans of Rs.2 crore, 40 beneficiaries have been given Prosthetic limbs worth Rs.24.70 lakh under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme and 332 differently-abled persons have been given assistive devices worth Rs.1.73 crore. In total, 14,953 differently-abled persons have been given welfare assistance worth Rs. 29.39 crore.

Tmt. Bhuvaneshwari, the younger sister of Thiru. Murugesan who is a beneficiary of this camp from the Dadagapatti area, has this to say about the camp:

My name is Bhuvaneswari. My brother's name is Murugesan (age 55). We live in Dadagapatti, Thirugnanam Nagar, Salem district. My brother is a differently-abled person with impairment of both hands and legs and speech since birth. Also, he is unable to stand up or walk without the help of others. He is living in my care. So far my brother Murugesan has never left the house as he could not go to the Government offices to get the welfare assistance provided by the Government for the differently - abled persons. Therefore, he has not received any Government welfare assistance till now.

In this case, as mentioned by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Department of Welfare of Differently-Abled Persons conducted a special camp near our house on 25.02.2023. In this special camp, Doctors, Revenue Department officials and other Government officials were present. I submitted an application for an identity card for differently-abled persons for my brother.

Immediately, the officials of the Department of Welfare of Differently-Abled Persons, Doctors and Revenue Department officials came to our house and processed the petition and within two hours the identity card for differently-abled persons with the required medical certificate was given to him. Also, they provided the Aadhaar card. Apart from this, since he has a 90 per cent disability, steps have been taken to get him monthly financial assistance.

Since it took several months to get all these, no application was done to avail ourselves of these welfare schemes for my brother. But now we are very happy that the Government officials came to our house and provided us with all the help we needed.

To the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K.Stalin, who, knowing the condition of the differently-abled persons, ordered the officials to directly go to the residences of these people, inquire about their needs and take immediate action, I express our sincere gratitude on behalf of the differently-abled persons.

Tmt Panchavarnam, the mother of Selvi Tanshika, a student from Udayapatti who is a beneficiary made the following remarks about the camp:

My name is Panchavarnam. My daughter's name is Tanshika (age 8). We live in the Udayapatti area. My daughter has a speech impairment. Her hands and legs have been affected and she has been unable to walk since she was 7 months old. Now, she is studying in third standard in the Primary Training Centre for mentally challenged children in Hastampatti, Salem. My husband's name is Murugesan. He is working as a daily wage labourer. Also, my daughter is being given monthly financial assistance of Rs.2,000 by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Every day I carry my daughter to school, make her sit and bring her back home after school.We yearned to know what help we could render her. In this situation, the people in the surroundings told us that a special camp for differently-abled persons has been organised by the Government of Tamil Nadu near our house.

In this camp, I had asked for a special wheelchair for differently-abled persons. The medical teams who were there immediately checked my daughter and considered giving her a special wheelchair. At that time, the District Collector came to the camp for inspection and inquired about my daughter's well-being. Also, the District Collector himself placed her in a special wheelchair worth Rs.9,000. I was very happy to have a special wheelchair provided immediately.

In this case, this special wheelchair given to my daughter is of great help to us to take her to school and other places. Since we started using this special chair, our daughter seems relieved of her stress. He has a smile on her face and feels refreshed.

It is highly praiseworthy that Government officials came to our place itself and provided the necessary assistance. On behalf of our family, I thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for making such a special arrangement.

In the way of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin has implemented various excellent programs for the benefit of people of all sections, to make Tamil Nadu the number one state in India. Also, with his outstanding administrative skills, he is leading the state in the path of development. It is not an exaggeration to say that people of all sections should give their support to such a great effort..

- Compiled by
Information& Public Relations Officer,
Salem District.

Thanks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for improving the lives of Adi Dravidar and Tribal people by providing them loan assistance with TAHDCO grant

The Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced various schemes for the welfare of poor people. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is running the Government with excellent transparency by providing loan assistance with subsidy to Adi Dravidar and tribal people, receiving great appreciation and support from the public.

The Dravidian Model Government led by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been implementing numerous schemes for people from all sections of the society. In that way, through TAHDCO, it has been announcing and implementing numerous welfare schemes to improve the livelihoods of the Adi Dravidar and tribal people living on the hills.

Details of the schemes implemented through the TAHDCO, Agricultural Land Purchase Scheme for Women: This scheme aims to improve the socio-economic status of the Adi Dravidar people. It facilitates Adi Dravidar women to purchase land in their name to increase the land ownership of the Adi Dravidar people, and provides various kinds of assistance to improve the land and increase its agricultural productivity. Under this scheme, the beneficiaries can own up to 5 acres of dry land or up to 2.50 acres of wetland. 30% of the project cost or Rs. 2.25 lakh, whichever is lower will be released as TAHDCO subsidy. 100% exemption from stamp duty and registration fee is given for the land purchased under this scheme.

Land Development Scheme (LDS)

The lands of the Adi Dravidar and tribal people can be used for agriculture by digging open wells, setting up borewells, etc. To benefit from this scheme, applicants must belong to the Adi Dravidar or Tribal community. A feasibility certificate from a geologist should be obtained that the applicant's land has sufficient water resources. The scheme amount will be decided by the selection committee as per NABARD guidelines. Adi Dravidars can get a subsidy of 30% of the project cost or Rs.2.25 lakh, whichever is less. Tribals can get a subsidy of 50% of the project cost or Rs.3.75 lakh whichever is less.

Fast Track Power Supply Scheme for Adi Dravidar Farmers

The Adi Dravidar and tribal farmers who have set up borewells and open wells on their land and have applied for electricity connection at the Electricity Board office and are waiting for electricity connection, can get a 90% subsidy from TAHDCO and a 10% beneficiary's share. According to the registration, funds will be released and electricity connection can be got speedily.

Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP)

The Entrepreneurship Development Program is being implemented to enable the Adi Dravidar and Tribal people to progress in life by engaging in careers of their own choice in which they have prior experience and earning an income. They can apply for all revenue-generating businesses like operating Tata A.C., Omni vehicles, tourist vehicles, passenger auto, dairy farming, poultry farming, mixing machine units, etc. Adi Dravidars can get a subsidy of 30% of the project cost or Rs.2.25 lakh, whichever is less. Tribals can get a subsidy of 50% of the project cost or Rs.3.75 lakh, whichever is less.

Self-Employment Scheme for Youth (SEPY)

The Self-Employment scheme is being implemented for the educated unemployed or low-income Adi Dravida youth, who can get a loan with a subsidy and earn income in the profession they know and progress in life. Candidates should have completed 18 years and must be below 45 years. They can do businesses like Tata A.C., Omni vehicles, heavy vehicles, tourist vehicles, passenger autos, dairy farms, poultry farms, mixing machinery, Xerox shops, computer centres, hotels, fast food restaurants, digital studios, etc., to earn income and advance in career with their known and interested profession in which they have prior experience. Adi Dravidas can get a subsidy of 30% of the project cost or

Rs. 2.25 lakh whichever is less. 50% of the project cost for tribals or Rs.4 lakh whichever is less can be availed as a subsidy.

Various schemes such as the Self Employment Special Scheme for Youth, the Economic Funding Scheme for Women Self Help Groups, etc., are being implemented.

A beneficiary of this scheme, Thiru. Muniyan of Aradapattu Village, Tiruvannamalai District, said:

My name is Muniyan. I live in Aradapattu Village, Tiruvannamalai District. I belong to a Hindu Adi Dravidar family. Belonging to a poor family, I used to do tractor ploughing and drive sugarcane loads for wages. I own an acre of land. I cultivate paddy and groundnuts in that land. As I did not have money to buy a tractor, when I came to know about the schemes implemented by TAHDCO, I applied for a tractor loan. I got a subsidized loan from HDFC Bank through TAHDCO to buy a tractor. This has improved our family's earnings. On behalf of myself and my family, I express my sincere gratitude to the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for giving this scheme.

A beneficiary of this project, Thiru. Thavamurthy from Kilsirupakkam Village, Thandrampet Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District said:

My name is Thavamurthy. I reside in Kilsirupakkam Village, Thandrampet Taluk. I belong to a Hindu Adi Dravidar family. As I am from a poor family, I applied for the purchase of a subsidized tractor at the TAHDCO office in the District Collector's office. The total project cost is Rs.7.57 lakh. I was given Rs.2.25 lakh as the TAHDCO subsidy. I took the remaining amount with a subsidized loan from TAHDCO and bought a tractor. This is very useful for our family's livelihood. On my behalf and on behalf of my family, I express my sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for giving this scheme.

- Compiled by:
Information & Public Relations Officer,
Tiruvannamalai District.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** unveiled the statue of **Dr. P. Subbarayan**, former Chief Minister of Madras Presidency, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, in the Gandhi Mandapam premises, Chennai on 05.09.2023.

Tamilarasu

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Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme

Expansion – Thirukkuvalai
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